



WARBLERS OF OHIO cd guidebook

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE



INTRODUCTION

Warblers (also known as wood-warblers) are one of the avian highlights of spring. Most species are highly migratory, wintering in the tropics of Central and South America. Without a doubt, warblers are one of the favorite groups among birders; just look at the numerous excited comments and Internet postings about them once the first spring migrants begin to filter back into North America after another long winter.

These flashy jewels are also a very important part of North America's community of breeding birds. Thirty-eight species of warblers breed in eastern North America, and 25 species regularly nest in Ohio. Including migrants that pass through on their way to more northerly breeding grounds, 37 species occur annually in Ohio. Four other vagrant warblers have been recorded, bringing Ohio's list of warblers to 41 species. Another four species of vagrants have been documented in the east, for a total of 45 species thus far recorded east of the Mississippi River. All are described in this booklet, and recordings of each are on the accompanying CD.

Like many birds, warblers serve as excellent barometers of changing environmental conditions. For instance, the highly migratory cerulean warbler is experiencing perhaps the fastest population decline of any North American warbler. Some estimates state that the overall population has dropped by 75 percent. Conversely, the chestnut-sided warbler has increased markedly since European settlement. In his extensive wanderings across eastern North America two centuries ago, famed naturalist John James Audubon saw only one chestnut-sided. As the dense primeval forest was opened for development, better conditions for this warbler were created, and it is now easy for a birder to see several dozen chestnut-sided warblers on a good day in May.

Chestnut-sided warbler



PHOTO BY: ©ROBERT ROYSE

Warblers belong to the family Parulidae, which comprises about 116 species, all in the New World. Central and North America have the greatest diversity, about 90 species, while another 26 species occur strictly in South America. These are tropical birds that probably evolved in the lush forests of northern Central America, where the greatest diversity of species is still found. Many have developed highly migratory life cycles, as is the case with nearly all Ohio species. Most warblers that nest in Ohio spend the winter in places like Costa Rica, Panama, or even Colombia and Venezuela. They are truly global wanderers and could be thought of as tropical birds that make short visits to our latitude to breed.

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front cover • Northern parula (photo by: ©Robert Roysse) / back cover • Black-and-white warbler (photo by: ©Matthew Studebaker)

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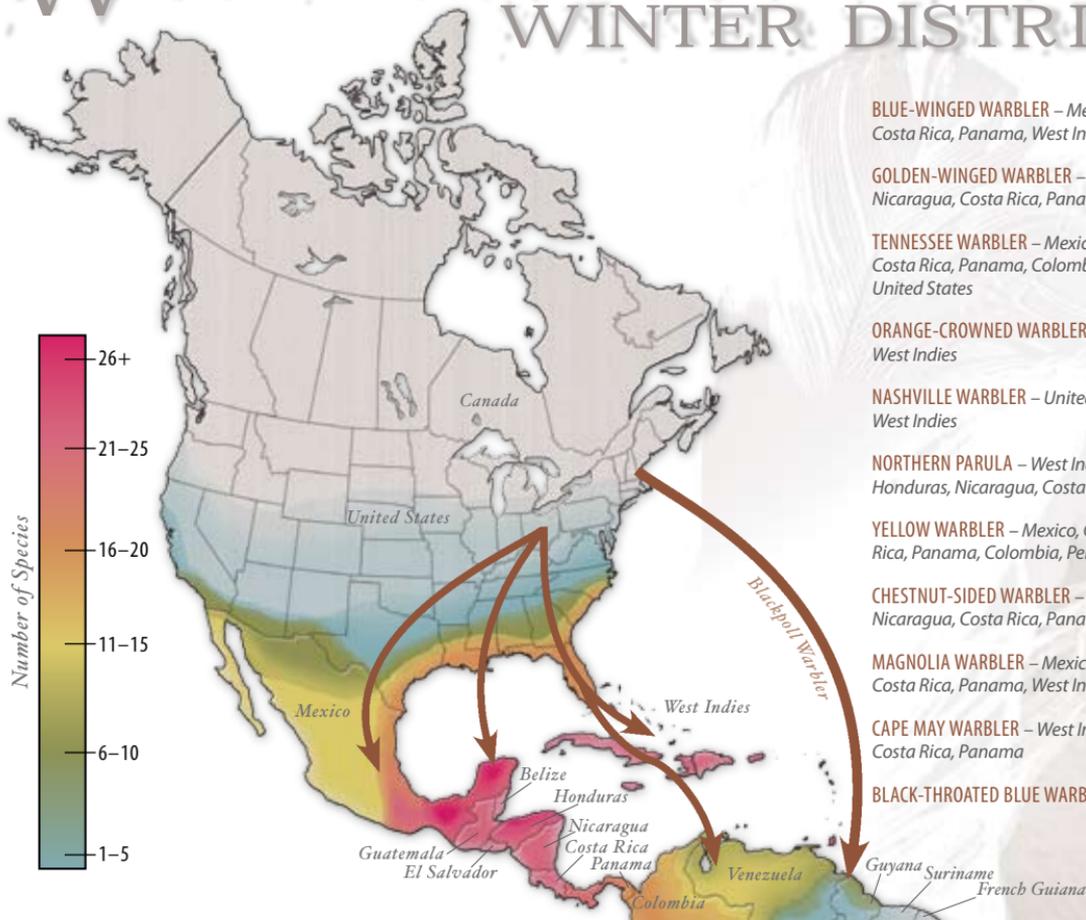
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Canada warbler

WARBLER MIGRATION & WINTER DISTRIBUTION



BLUE-WINGED WARBLER – Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, West Indies

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER – Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, West Indies

TENNESSEE WARBLER – Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, West Indies, United States

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER – United States, Mexico, Guatemala, West Indies

NASHVILLE WARBLER – United States, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, West Indies

NORTHERN PARULA – West Indies, United States, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica

YELLOW WARBLER – Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Peru, Brazil, West Indies

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER – Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama

MAGNOLIA WARBLER – Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, West Indies

CAPE MAY WARBLER – West Indies, Mexico, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama

BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER – West Indies, Mexico, Honduras

YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER (*myrtle group*) – United States, Mexico, West Indies, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER – Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, West Indies

BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER – Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER (*subspecies albilora*) – United States, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua

PINE WARBLER – United States

KIRTLAND'S WARBLER – West Indies

PRAIRIE WARBLER – United States, West Indies, Mexico, Honduras

PALM WARBLER – United States, West Indies, Mexico, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica

BAY-BREADED WARBLER – Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela

BLACKPOLL WARBLER – Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Venezuela, Brazil, Chile, Argentina

CERULEAN WARBLER – Colombia, Venezuela, Bolivia, Ecuador, Peru, Brazil

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER – United States, West Indies, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador

AMERICAN REDSTART – United States, West Indies, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru, Brazil

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER – Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, West Indies

WORM-EATING WARBLER – West Indies, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama

SWAINSON'S WARBLER – West Indies, Mexico

OVENBIRD – Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela, United States, West Indies



NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH – United States, West Indies, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela

LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH – Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, West Indies

KENTUCKY WARBLER – Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Venezuela

CONNECTICUT WARBLER – Colombia, Venezuela, Peru, Brazil

MOURNING WARBLER – Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama, Colombia, Ecuador, Venezuela

COMMON YELLOWTHROAT – United States, Mexico, West Indies, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama

HOODED WARBLER – Mexico, West Indies, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama

WILSON'S WARBLER – United States, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama

CANADA WARBLER – Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Peru

YELLOW-BREADED CHAT – United States, Mexico, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama

ABOUT THIS BOOK AND CD

All 38 species of warblers that breed in eastern North America are described in this booklet, and their songs and calls are included on the accompanying CD. An additional seven species that are rare vagrants – all from the western U.S. – are summarized at the end of the booklet and their songs are included at the end of the CD. As the emphasis of this project is on warbler vocalizations, only birds in breeding plumage are depicted in the photographs and females are only shown for species in which the sexes differ markedly. In a few cases, notable subspecies that can be recognized in the field are described, and their songs included on the CD. Likewise, a few noteworthy hybrids are also included. Also shown are maps of each species' total breeding range, and a chart of migration and summering dates for each species for Ohio.

The species in this booklet and CD are arranged in taxonomic order, and separated by genus. This type of arrangement reflects the apparent evolutionary history of warblers, beginning with the species that are thought to be most primitive.

species name

BLACKPOLL WARBLER
Geothlypis trichas

track number 120

gender

This is the champion long distance migrant songbird. Another of the spruce budworm specialists, blackpolls nest in the vast coniferous forests of Canada, Alaska, and northern New England. Most winter east of the Andes in Brazil, Colombia, Venezuela, and adjoining countries. Some have been found as far south as the 40° of latitude in Argentina. It is possible that some blackpolls migrate nearly 8,000 miles one-way. In fall, many birds fly a trans-oceanic route across the Atlantic from New England to South America. Such a flight might take three days.

nesting habitat

NESTING HABITAT Blackpoll warbler
Does not nest in Ohio. Breeds primarily in stunted coniferous forests dominated by fir and spruce.

song

SONG Blackpoll warbler
A high pitched series of piping notes that sounds like steam being released in bursts from a kettle. While the sound is in the upper ranges of hearing and hard for some people to hear, it is easily recognized if you can hear it.

call

CALL Blackpoll warbler
Essentially identical to bay-breasted warblers.

breeding range map

SEASONAL ABUNDANCE Blackpoll warbler
J A M J J A S O N D

RECORDIST NOTES Blackpoll warbler
Marblehead, Canada: 13 & 14 June 1961.
Ohio: 10 May 1979.
Oyster, Canada: 3 July 1985.

seasonal abundance

recordist notes

SONGBIRD ANATOMY

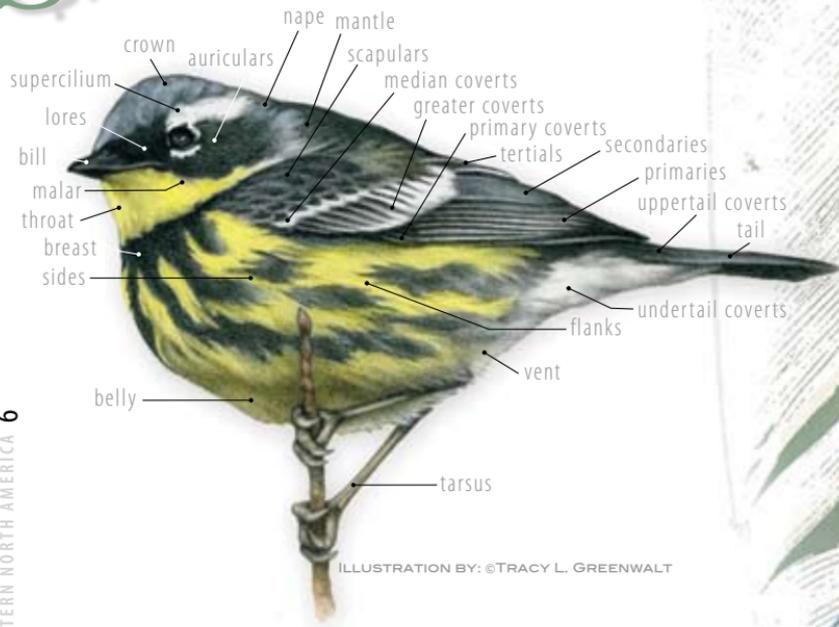


ILLUSTRATION BY: ©TRACY L. GREENWALT

Black-throated blue warbler



WARBLER MORPHOLOGY

Color is one of the strong attractions of warblers, and collectively, they show a palette of hues rivaling a rainbow. In general, males are more brightly marked than females, although only about a dozen of the 37 regular Ohio species look markedly different between males and females. Spring females mostly look like duller versions of the males. In fall, the males of many species molt into drabber basic plumage and more closely resemble females. Also, fall sees the passage of many immature warblers, and these birds also display much less colorful plumage.

All warblers are highly insectivorous, at least for much of the year. Some species do become seasonally *frugivorous* (fruit-eating), usually in winter. Yet others adopt a nectar-foraging strategy occasionally. As is typical of birds that glean mostly for small insects, warblers have small, slender bills. The most hyperactive species typically have rictal bristles, like the hooded warbler to the right. These stiff hairs surround the bill and increase the gape area of the mouth – a big advantage for birds attempting to capture small flying insects.

These are small birds, ranging from the 4 ½-inch, 7-gram Northern parula to the exceptionally robust yellow-breasted chat, which is 7 ½ inches long and weighs 25 grams. The latter is very much the exception; our average warbler is about 5 inches long and weighs less than 10 grams.



Chestnut-sided warbler

PHOTO BY: JEFF WOLFINGER

Hooded warbler



PHOTO BY: GREGORY ROYSE

SONGS AND CALLS

The accompanying CD contains typical examples of primary songs of each species, and in many cases secondary or atypical songs. With practice, most can be easily learned. Toughest to master are those species that do not breed in your area and only pass through for a short time in spring. Thus, a birder may only have two weeks each spring to hear their songs. Listening to CDs like this one can be a big asset in re-learning these songs each year.

Birds sing to attract mates, warn off rival males, and announce territorial boundaries. In order to help in visual interpretation of song, a spectrogram of each species' typical song is included. The spectrogram will match the first song on the recording for each species, except for the yellow-breasted chat, which is represented by four segments near the track's end. Spectrograms are read from left to right, like a book, and the vertical scale represents pitch – the higher the marking the higher the pitch. Darker grayscale markings indicate sound amplitude, or an increase in volume. Under Recordist Notes is a listing of the states or countries and dates that the various recordings used for each species were made.

Calls are short notes, often described as chips, jeets, zips, etc. Most species give several distinctly different call notes, and we have included the most typical calls given during the day for each species. Most also have different calls that they regularly give during nighttime migration as they fly overhead; with practice many of these can be learned. Nocturnal calls go beyond the scope of this project; for more information on this fascinating subject visit Old Bird, Inc.: <http://www.oldbird.org/>



Parula warbler

PHOTO BY: ©ROBERT FOYSE

SONG SPECTROGRAMS

Spectrograms are read from left to right, like a book, and the vertical scale represents pitch – the higher the marking the higher the pitch. Darker grayscale markings indicate sound amplitude, or an increase in volume. Thanks to the Borror Laboratory of Bioacoustics at The Ohio State University for providing the following spectrograms.

02
track



BLUE-WINGED WARBLER



03
track



GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER



04
track



BREWSTER'S WARBLER



05
track



TENNESSEE WARBLER



06
track



ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER



07
track



NASHVILLE WARBLER



08
track



NORTHERN PARULA



09
track



SUTTON'S WARBLER



10
track



YELLOW WARBLER



11
track



CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER



12
track



MAGNOLIA WARBLER



13
track



CAPE MAY WARBLER



14
track



BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER



15
track



YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER



16
track



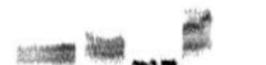
AUDUBON'S WARBLER



17
track



BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER



18
track



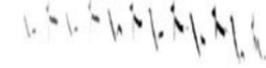
BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER

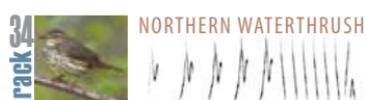


19
track



YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER





BEHAVIOR

Most warblers are arboreal, spending most of their time in trees and shrubs. As befits creatures that try to capture insects, they generally are in more or less constant motion and seldom stay put for too long. Some species engage in frequent wing or tail flicking, or tail bobbing. A few species, like the ovenbird and both waterthrushes, spend much time on the ground. Other species like the American redstart and Wilson's warbler make frequent flycatcher-like dashes to grab flying insects.

Behavioral cues can help with identification. For instance, magnolia warblers are sometimes misidentified as the very rare Kirtland's warbler. However, the latter is a rather sluggish warbler, often on or near the ground, and it regularly pumps its tail up and down.

*Yellow-rumped warbler eating poison ivy berries
(top right).*



Yellow-rumped warbler

PHOTO BY: ©DAVE LEWIS



American redstart (female)

PHOTO BY: ©BRIAN ZWIEBEL

HABITATS

The various species of warblers occupy a range of habitats, but most are found in forested landscapes. Habitat preferences cover a broad suite of forest types, from upland oak-hickory woodlands to floodplain forests dominated by sycamore. Some of our rarer nesters depend on hemlock gorges, which is a rare and localized Ohio habitat. Species like American redstart and hooded warbler are understory specialists; they utilize dense shrub zones below the main forest canopy. The greatest warbler habitat of all is the vast boreal forest that blankets much of Canada and the extreme northern

U.S. Twenty-seven species breed there, and estimates range from 300 million to one billion birds.



Louisiana waterthrush

A few species of warblers occur in open successional habitats, such as old brushy fields, as is the case with the prairie warbler and yellow-breasted chat. Common yellowthroats and yellow warblers reach peak abundance in wetland habitats. Pine warblers are aptly named – they invariably occur in stands of pine. Louisiana waterthrushes are riparian dwellers, living along small streams and often foraging on the rocky shores or eroding cut banks.

The Ohio Division of Wildlife owns and manages about 200,000 acres, much of which is outstanding warbler habitat. Nearly all 24 warbler species that regularly breed in Ohio nest on Division lands, many in large numbers. Of equal importance is the role wildlife areas play as migratory stopover sites. Division-owned or managed lands occur in every county, providing neotropical migrants with vital resting and refueling stops. The Division is engaged in numerous, ongoing restoration projects for wetland, grassland, forest, and scrub successional habitat, all of which benefit warblers. In addition, the Division of Wildlife supports the Ohio Bird Conservation Initiative, the Appalachian Mountains Joint Venture, and the Upper Mississippi River/ Great Lakes Region Joint Venture. All bird conservation planning and management actions also occur through active participation in the Mississippi Flyway Council and in partnership with diverse groups including Ducks Unlimited and Partners in Flight.

For information on Ohio's wildlife areas, call 1-800-WILDLIFE or visit us on the web at: www.wildohio.com

FINDING WARBLERS

The best time to find warblers is during the flood of spring migration, at least for the novice warbler-watcher. Early to mid-May brings the greatest numbers and diversity of species, and the males look resplendent in bright alternate (breeding) plumage. Plus, they are singing, so we've got audio, too. More warblers actually pass through in fall, their numbers bolstered by juveniles hatched that breeding season, but colors are muted and the birds are not singing, so the show isn't as spectacular as in spring.

Ohio has many great places to seek warblers, and a special section in the front of this guidebook singles out and briefly describes 12 of the top warbler-watching sites in Ohio. Keep in mind that virtually any place, from suburban yards to large wildlife areas, can host plenty of warblers in migration. Likewise, at least some species of warblers breed in every Ohio county, so the warbler-conscious observer shouldn't have to go far to find them, even in summer.

Beware, many warblers frequent the tops of trees and be prepared to spend much time looking upwards. Veteran warbler-watchers are prone to developing a temporary condition known as "warbler neck."



Northern parula

PHOTO BY: ©DAVE LEWIS

*Northern parula, a frequent cause of
"warbler neck."*

E COTOURISM

Ohio is a great place for birds and birders. Over 415 species have been recorded in the state to date, one of the highest totals of any Midwestern state. In addition to extraordinary birding potential, many Ohio locales for seeking interesting birds are among the most beautiful natural places in the eastern U.S.

Warblers are a big part of Ohio's birdlife, and their numbers and diversity draw people from all over North America – and even beyond – to the Buckeye State. Huge waves of nearly every species found in the east sweep through Ohio en route to breeding grounds. Spring fallouts can be stupefying; birders have recorded as many as 35 warbler species in one day, many in staggering numbers.

The map on page 15 of this booklet indicates some of the very best spots to find warblers in Ohio. A well-planned weekend during migration with visits to several of these “hotspots” will net nearly all the warbler species found in eastern North America. Ohio is also a great summertime destination for warbler-watchers. Twenty-four species nest annually, and most are easy to find. All of Ohio's nesting warblers can be found in at least some of the sites described in this booklet.

Many Ohio State Parks are conveniently located near outstanding birding areas, and several have excellent lodges. The Ohio Travel Association has a wealth of information for visitors. Visit their respective websites at:

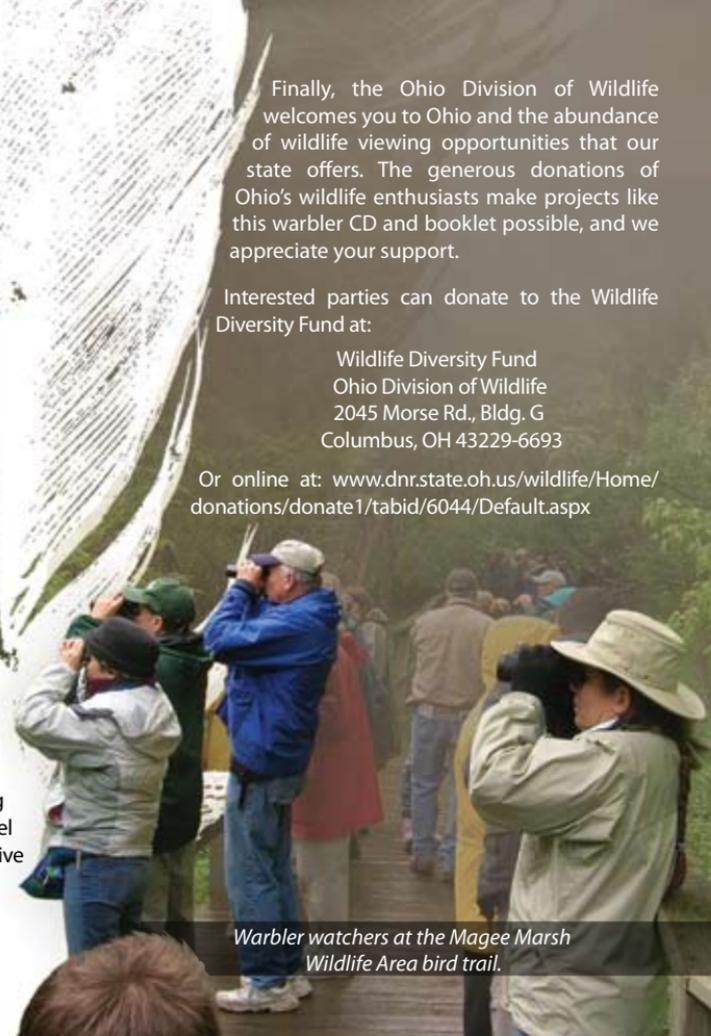
Ohio State Parks: www.ohiodnr.com/default/tabid/80/Default.aspx
Ohio Travel Association: www.ohiotravel.org/

Finally, the Ohio Division of Wildlife welcomes you to Ohio and the abundance of wildlife viewing opportunities that our state offers. The generous donations of Ohio's wildlife enthusiasts make projects like this warbler CD and booklet possible, and we appreciate your support.

Interested parties can donate to the Wildlife Diversity Fund at:

Wildlife Diversity Fund
Ohio Division of Wildlife
2045 Morse Rd., Bldg. G
Columbus, OH 43229-6693

Or online at: www.dnr.state.oh.us/wildlife/Home/donations/donate1/tabid/6044/Default.aspx



Warbler watchers at the Magee Marsh Wildlife Area bird trail.

WARBLER HOTSPOTS

Ohio offers some of the richest warbler-watching anywhere in North America. During the mid-May peak of migration, birders from across North America visit the Buckeye State to share in the avian bounty. As Ohio supports tremendous breeding populations of many species of warblers, increasing numbers of out-of-state birders are joining Ohioans in seeking the large numbers of many species of warblers that nest here. The following are some of Ohio's best locales to seek warblers.

1 OAK OPENINGS METROPARK

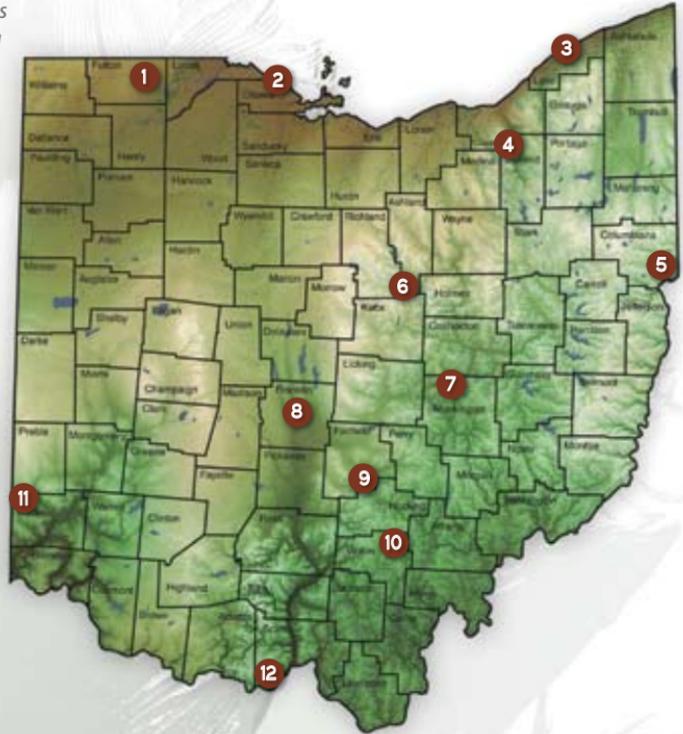
www.metroparkstoledo.com/metroparks/oakopenings/

This was the last stronghold for nesting golden-winged warblers in Ohio, and a territorial male still occasionally appears. Open country warblers like the yellow-breasted chat and prairie warbler can be found, as well as many woodland species, including the cerulean warbler.

2 MAGEE MARSH WILDLIFE AREA

www.dnr.state.oh.us/Home/wild_resourcessubhomepage/WildlifeAreaMapsRepository/tabid/10579/Default.aspx

The "Bird Trail" at Magee Marsh is one of the most famous spring birding destinations in North America. If you don't believe that, go there on International Migratory Bird Day, always the second Saturday in May. Some years see over 5,000 birders descend on the area on that date, with good reason. Incredible fallouts of warblers occur in the seven-acre woodland bisected by the trail. Thirty species in a day are possible, and there are more records of Kirtland's warbler in this area than from any other place other than the breeding grounds in Michigan.



Blackburnian warbler

3 HEADLANDS DUNES STATE NATURE PRESERVE

www.ohiodnr.com/location/dnap/headlands/tabid/892/Default.aspx

Located on the shore of Lake Erie, the scruffy woods at Headlands are a fantastic migrant trap. Every regularly occurring warbler species in Ohio has occurred here, most of them annually and many in big numbers. Rarities are a regular occurrence. In spring 2007, three Kirtland's warblers and a Swainson's warbler appeared and were widely seen.

4 CUYAHOGA VALLEY NATIONAL PARK

www.nps.gov/cuva/

A good variety of breeding warblers are among the 105 species of birds that regularly nest within the park's 33,000 acres. Cerulean warblers can be found here, as well as some of the northernmost breeding yellow-throated warblers. Common forest species like the black-and-white warbler and American redstart are easily found, and prothonotary warblers breed in some of the wetlands and riverine habitats.

5 BEAVER CREEK STATE PARK

www.dnr.state.oh.us/parks/beaverck/tabid/714/Default.aspx

Covering over 2,700 acres, the park borders Little Beaver Creek, one of the most pristine streams in Ohio. Woodland-dwelling warblers abound in the mature forests, including many southern species near their northern limits, like Kentucky and worm-eating warblers. Some of the hemlock-dominated slopes harbor boreal breeders such as the black-throated green and magnolia warblers.

6 MOHICAN-MEMORIAL STATE FOREST

www.dnr.state.oh.us/forests/mohican/tabid/5160/Default.aspx

Perhaps the richest diversity of breeding warbler species in Ohio is found in this nearly 5,000-acre forest, which surrounds the 1,110-acre Mohican State Park which is excellent habitat. The second most common breeding bird in the forest is the hooded warbler, which is seemingly everywhere. A 1997 study documented 25 species of nesting warblers, including many rare boreal breeders like Blackburnian and Canada warblers.

7 TRI-VALLEY WILDLIFE AREA

www.dnr.state.oh.us/Home/wild_resourcehomepage/WildlifeAreaMapsRepository/tabid/10579/Default.aspx

The largest wildlife area in Ohio, 16,200-acre Tri-Valley supports an interesting mix of breeding warblers. Species of successional habitats like prairie and blue-winged warbler and yellow-breasted chat are common. The scattered woodlands are occupied by many forest species like cerulean, hooded, and Kentucky warblers, while local streams harbor Louisiana waterthrushes.

8 GREEN LAWN CEMETERY

www.greenlawncolumbus.org/

Green Lawn is a beautiful 360-acre oasis in a very urbanized part of Columbus. Due to its great diversity of massive trees, it is also known as an arboretum. The cemetery is locally famous as a migrant trap, and large fallouts of warblers can occur in spring. There are records of Kirtland's and Swainson's warblers, but it's the large numbers of common species that can drop in on a good May day that make Green Lawn such an appealing warbler-watching locale.

9 CLEAR CREEK METROPARK

www.metroparks.net/ParksClearCreek.aspx

The 5,252-acre Clear Creek Metropark is dominated by hemlocks along its slopes, and supports a fascinating community of disjunct boreal breeding warblers. Canada, magnolia, and black-throated green warblers can be found every year. The Northern parula is abundant along the stream, as is the yellow-throated warbler. An interesting mix of northern and southern species meet here, as northerners like the Canada warbler nest in proximity to southern species such as the Kentucky warbler.

10 ZALESKI STATE FOREST

www.dnr.state.oh.us/forests/zaleski/tabid/5171/Default.aspx

Located in the rugged hill country of southeastern Ohio, the nearly 27,000 acres of Zaleski State Forest are filled with woodland warblers. May is a great time to bird here, as not only are all of the local breeders on territory, but scores of migrants can also be found. At least 18 species of warblers have been found nesting, many of them in great abundance. Pine warblers can easily be found in ridgetop pine stands, and the Louisiana waterthrush, Northern parula, and yellow-throated warbler are common along streams.

11 HUESTON WOODS STATE PARK

www.dnr.state.oh.us/parks/huestonw/tabid/745/Default.aspx

Covering nearly 3,000 acres, Hueston Woods contains some of the best forested habitat in southwestern Ohio. This is a great place to seek out migrants in April and May. Breeding warblers are also diverse, as not only is there old-growth woodlands, but also reverting successional fields harboring prairie warblers and yellow-breasted chats. Ovenbirds, hooded warblers, and black-and-white warblers are common nesters in the woodlands.

12 SHAWNEE STATE FOREST

www.dnr.state.oh.us/forests/shawnee/tabid/5166/Default.aspx

Shawnee is a warbler-watcher's paradise, and with nearly 65,000 acres there is plenty of room to roam. This forest is one of the best places to study warblers in the eastern United States. The sheer numbers of birds is staggering. Southern species like Kentucky and worm-eating warblers are everywhere. One of the densest breeding populations of cerulean warblers anywhere is in Shawnee. April and May bring stunning waves of migrants along the razorback ridges, augmenting the masses of nesting warblers.

WARBLER CONSERVATION

Successfully conserving warblers is one of our greatest avian conservation challenges. Because nearly all of our species are highly migratory, simply protecting habitat for them in Ohio isn't good enough. Most winter in distant lands in other countries, and their wintering habitat is where they spend most of the year. For instance, a blue-winged warbler that breeds in Ohio might only be here from May through July (three months). But, it might spend September through March in Costa Rica (seven months), with the remainder of its year occupied by migrating through several other countries and perhaps a half dozen states. See the map on page 3 for a dramatic graphic of the global distribution of warblers.

Because of their broad-ranging life cycle, no one entity can regulate all aspects of most warblers' habitat. As an example, Ohio hosts some of the best remaining populations of cerulean warbler, a species of mature woodlands that has been in a rapid state of decline. Habitats in Ohio would seem to be improving, as we have more forest than we did during much of the 1900s, and much of what we have is maturing into better cerulean habitat. But this species winters primarily in Colombia and Venezuela, and what those governments do in regards to conservation will have direct impacts on the cerulean warbler. And when they make their annual migrations between summering and wintering grounds, good stopover habitat for resting and refueling is essential.

The Bachman's warbler, *Vermivora bachmanii*, was one of North America's most beautiful breeding warblers. Occupying old-growth swamp forests of southeastern coastal states, it wintered in Cuba. Habitat destruction caused this species' demise, and the last confirmed record was in 1962.

Most authorities consider it extinct. Protecting warblers and other neotropical migrants like Baltimore orioles, great crested flycatchers, and scarlet tanagers will require the adoption of a global perspective with regard to their breeding and wintering ranges, and the paths between. It would be a tragedy if other warblers went the way of the Bachman's warbler.



Cerulean warbler

PHOTO BY: eROBERT ROYCE

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER

VERMIVORA PINUS • VER-MIV-OR-AH (WORM-EATER) PY-NUS (PINE TREE; PROBABLY NAMED IN ERROR, ORIGINAL SPECIMEN WAS CONFUSED WITH THE PINE WARBLER)

track  Blue-winged warblers occupy successional habitats – scruffy young forests and edges, open brushy fields, reclaimed strip mines with young groves of black locust, etc. One of the earlier warblers to depart, with most adults leaving Ohio by the beginning of August. A very rare hybrid dubbed the “Cincinnati warbler” has been collected twice, the first time in Cincinnati in 1880, and again in Michigan in 1948. They proved to be hybrids of this species and the Kentucky warbler.

NESTING HABITAT blue-winged warbler

Breeds throughout the state, but becomes very local if not completely absent from heavily agricultural regions. Peak numbers are in unglaciated hill country, and southern counties with plenty of red cedar glades and brushy habitats.

SONG blue-winged warbler

This is one of the easiest warbler songs to learn. Males give a loud, buzzy two-note song often rendered as *Bee-buzz*, with the first part higher and the second lower and more nasal or rougher. The only species that might be confused with it is the golden-winged warbler, which typically gives a higher-pitched four or five noted descending series of buzzes. Blue-wingeds can deliver very golden-winged-like songs, and vice-versa, and hybrids (see golden-winged account) can sound like either species. Blue-wingeds occasionally give an alternate song; a more rapid series of high-pitched buzzy notes that is vaguely wren-like.

CALL blue-winged warbler

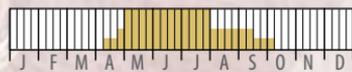
Typical call is a high sharp *tchick*, reminiscent of a Louisiana waterthrush call, but not as loud and emphatic.



PHOTO BY: ©JEFF WOLFFINGER



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE blue-winged warbler



RECORDIST NOTES blue-winged warbler

New York: 15 May 1990. Ohio: 5 May 1980;
7 June 1987, 29 June 2003.

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER

VERMIVORA CHRYSOPTERA • VER-MIV-OR-AH (WORM-EATER) KRY-SOP-TER-AH (GOLD WING)

track 28

This is one of Ohio's rarest breeding warblers, if any still successfully nest. This species is now absent from large areas depicted on the breeding range map. The last "stronghold" was the Oak Openings region of Lucas County, where golden-winged numbers peaked in the 1930s. Golden-winged hybridize extensively with blue-winged warblers where they come into contact. The hybrid that expresses dominant traits is called Brewster's warbler; the recessive hybrid is the Lawrence's warbler. The more southern blue-winged has expanded north in the last century, increasingly invading the range of the northern golden-winged. When the two species meet, hybridization occurs, and after about 50 years, the population has become entirely blue-winged warblers.

NESTING HABITAT golden-winged warbler

Although occasional territorial males show up in suitable breeding habitat, they are nearly always unmated and nesting is now a very rare occurrence, if it happens at all.

SONG golden-winged warbler

Typically gives a buzzy upslurred note, followed by three or four other buzzy notes. There can be numerous slight variations on this song. Any suspected singing golden-winged in Ohio should be tracked down to visually confirm the identity. Apparently pure blue-winged warblers can sing golden-winged type songs, as do the hybrids.

CALL golden-winged warbler

Nearly identical to blue-winged, and may not be distinguishable with certainty.

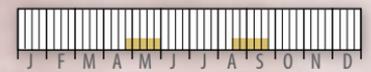


PHOTO BY: ROBERT ROYSE

PHOTO BY: JEFF WOLFFINGER



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE golden-winged warbler



RECORDIST NOTES golden-winged warbler

Ohio: 16 May 1960; 3 June 1962.
West Virginia: 25 May 1957.

BREWSTER'S & LAWRENCE'S WARBLERS

track  Hybrids between blue-winged and golden-winged warblers occur regularly and are occasionally encountered. The Brewster's is the result of crossing between pure parent species; the Lawrence's is usually the product of a pairing between a Brewster's and either a blue-winged or golden-winged carrying certain recessive genes. The songs of either hybrid can sound essentially like either parent species, or variations thereof. Odd blue-winged/golden-winged songs are always worth tracking down to see who is singing. The Brewster's on this track is singing songs similar to both parent species.



PHOTO BY: MATTHEW STUDEBAKER

PHOTO BY: ROBERT ROYSE

RECORDIST NOTES *brewster's warbler*
Pennsylvania: 21 May 1988.

TENNESSEE WARBLER

VERMIVORA PEREGRINA • VER-MIV-OR-AH (WORM-EATER) PAIR-IH-GRY-NA (WANDERING)

track

Tennessee warblers are late migrants in spring, with the peak passage from mid-to late May. They normally forage high in the canopy of trees, which are completely leafed out by the time they pass through. Thus, a birder who knows their song will detect many more Tennessee warblers than one who doesn't. This species can be very common in migration, and is often found in suburban shade trees.

The name is a bit misleading; this warbler breeds nowhere near Tennessee. It nests across the boreal forest zones of Canada and extreme northern U.S. However, Alexander Wilson collected the first specimen in 1811 on the banks of the Cumberland River in Tennessee.

NESTING HABITAT *tennessee warbler*

Doesn't nest in Ohio. Breeds in boreal forest, typically in younger regenerating woodlands that have abundant brushy understorey.

SONG *tennessee warbler*

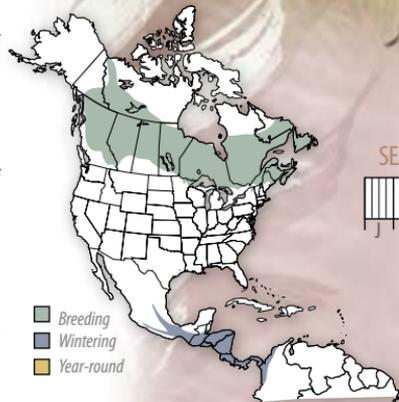
It's hard to miss the song of this bird, which is the drabest of the genus *Vermivora*, and learning it will result in detecting far more of these birds. The song is a loud, staccato series of two short trills, the first higher-pitched, the second trill dropping slightly, followed by a longer series of loud uniform sharp chips with a sweet tone. The beginning of the song is suggestive of the start of the Northern waterthrush song, and also suggests the Nashville warbler, but is much louder and more staccato. Tennessee warbler songs carry great distances.

CALL *tennessee warbler*

A short, abrupt *tschik*, rather quiet and with a very faintly buzzy quality.



PHOTO BY: ROBERT ROYSE



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE *tennessee warbler*



RECORDIST NOTES *tennessee warbler*

Ohio: 17 May 1953; 16 May 1973;
22 May 1976; 12 May 1996.

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER

VERMIVORA CELATA • VER-MIV-OR-AH (WORM-EATER) SEE-LATE-AH (CONCEALED; REFERS TO THE ORANGE PATCH WHICH IS NORMALLY HIDDEN)

track This is one of the tougher warbler songs to learn, if one only sees this species in Ohio. Not many pass through, and their window of passage in spring is rather brief. They do tend to be low in the vegetation, so at least birders can often view them well when one is found.

Orange-crowned warblers are far more common in western North America, and can be the most common warbler in some habitats. This is by the far the hardest of the *Vermivora* warblers, and there are a number of winter records from Ohio. The orange crown is very rarely visible in the field.

NESTING HABITAT orange-crowned warbler
Doesn't nest in Ohio. Breeders occupy dense shrub zones, willow thickets and the like.

SONG orange-crowned warbler
Although somewhat quiet and not carrying especially well, the song is a rather explosive series of trills on two levels. The first set of trills is louder, much faster and higher-pitched, followed by a slower, lower series of musical chips. Sometimes they give a more monotone trill that suggests the musical sweetness of a pine warbler song. Other variations are fast and sputtery; vaguely reminiscent of a winter wren song.

CALL orange-crowned warbler
A rather loud, smacking chip note with a spitting quality.

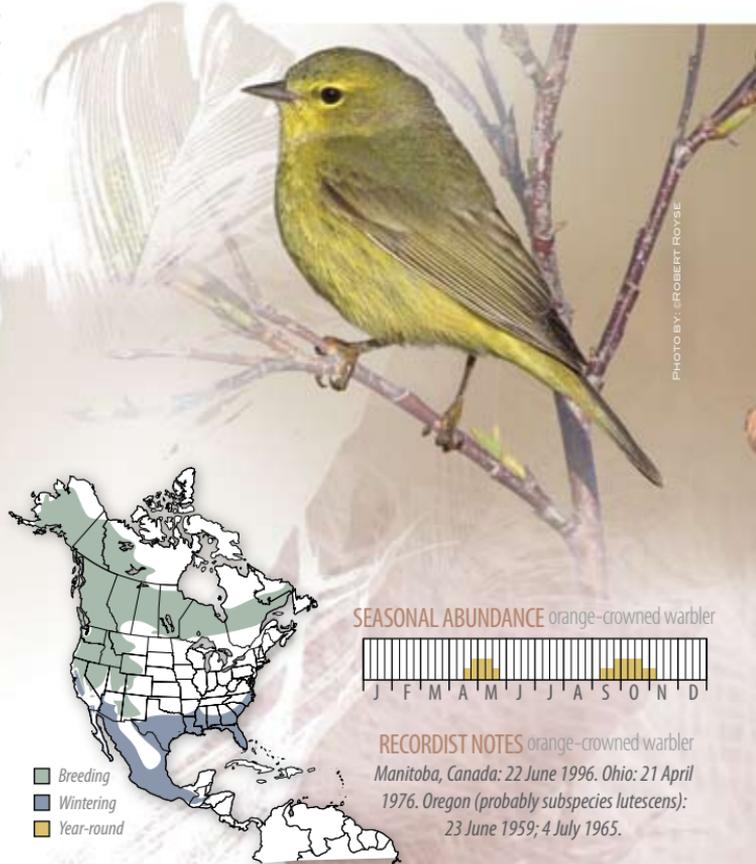


PHOTO BY: ROBERT ROYSE

SEASONAL ABUNDANCE orange-crowned warbler



RECORDIST NOTES orange-crowned warbler

Manitoba, Canada: 22 June 1996. Ohio: 21 April 1976. Oregon (probably subspecies *lutescens*): 23 June 1959; 4 July 1965.

NASHVILLE WARBLER

VERMIVORA RUFICAPILLA • VER-MIV-OR-AH (WORM-EATER) ROOF-IH-CAP-ILL-AH (REDDISH HAIR, REFERS TO MALE'S REDDISH CAP)

track Peak spring migration of Nashville warblers is in the first half of May, when trees are mostly leafed out. As this is another species that often forages in tree canopies, many more will be detected by learning the song, which is one of the easier warbler songs to master. This can be one of our most common migrants. Although named for the Tennessee city where Alexander Wilson collected the first specimen in 1811, Nashville warblers breed in the boreal forests of eastern and central Canada and the northern U.S.

NESTING HABITAT *nashville warbler*

Breeds primarily to the north; only three confirmed breeding records from extreme northeastern Ohio. Nests in a variety of open woodlands, often in younger successional forests with lots of brushy understory and along bog margins.

SONG *nashville warbler*

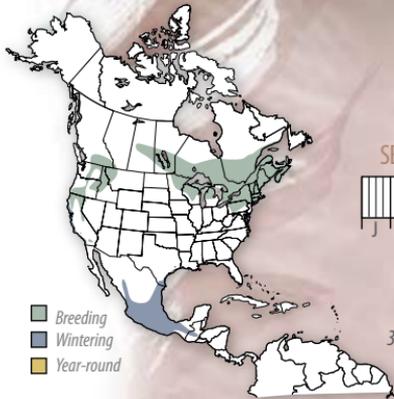
Most similar to the song of the Tennessee warbler, but much less sharp and staccato, with a notably sweeter tonal quality. It begins with a short series of paired notes in a short trill, the first note higher. The second part of the song is a rapid uniform trill, with a very rich sweet quality. The beginning of the song suggests the start of the yellow-throated warbler song. There can be slight variations, but the clear sweet tonal quality will always be present.

CALL *nashville warbler*

Calls are short sharp chips, but they have a rather robust metallic flavor, and have been compared to the call note of a Northern waterthrush, although not as full and with the carrying power of the waterthrush.



PHOTO BY: ©ROBERT ROYSE



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE *nashville warbler*



RECORDIST NOTES *nashville warbler*

Maine: 7 June 1960; 17 June 1962. Ohio: 30 April 1954; 12 May 1976; 28 April 1981. Texas: 24 April 1962.

NORTHERN PARULA

PARULA AMERICANA • PAIR-OO-LAH (LITTLE TITMOUSE) AH-MARE-IH-CAN-AH (AMERICAN)



This is our smallest warbler, and it normally stays high in the treetops. Attempting to closely study a parula will give the observer a true appreciation of "warbler neck." Parulas are near the northern limits of their range in Ohio. A rare hybrid, with a number of records in nearby West Virginia, is the Sutton's warbler, which results from a pairing with this species and yellow-throated warbler. It could turn up in Ohio.

NESTING HABITAT northern parula

Breeds in riparian forests. They reach highest densities along the slopes of medium-sized streams lined with hemlock trees (*Tsuga canadensis*). Nests throughout the southern 2/3rds of Ohio, becoming more frequent southward. Actively expanding northward and occasional breeders are encountered to Lake Erie.

SONG northern parula

Normally very easy to learn. The loud song ascends upward rapidly, and is composed of a very rapid series of buzzy notes terminated in a sharp ending note that sounds like *zap!* No other species has a similar song. However, parulas also occasionally give an alternate song; a rapid series of upwardly ascending buzzy trills that can suggest a cerulean warbler song. Curiously, there are at least two apparent hybrids between these species, one of which was found in Ohio. Other alternate songs can even be reminiscent of the golden-winged warbler.

CALL northern parula

A rich, loud clear *chip*.



SUTTON'S WARBLER

DENDROICA POTOMAC • (NAMED FOR ORNITHOLOGIST GEORGE MIKSCH SUTTON (1898-1982); ORIGINALLY CONSIDERED A DISTINCT SPECIES)



A very rare hybrid between the yellow-throated warbler and Northern parula; it has been recorded mostly in West Virginia and Virginia although there are records for Alabama, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, South Carolina, and Texas. Many of these reports probably represent migrants; the Illinois and Indiana reports may represent breeders. The song is most like the parula, but may be repeated rapidly or otherwise have aberrant twists. Odd parula songs should be investigated. This hybrid could occur in southeastern Ohio, although there haven't been many records anywhere in the past three decades.



Highlighted area is region where most reports have occurred.

RECORDIST NOTES sutton's warbler
West Virginia: 10 June 1975.

YELLOW WARBLER

DENDROICA PETECHIA • DEN-DROY-KAH (TREE DWELLER) PET-ETCH-EE-AH (PURPLISH SPOTS)



One of our most common warblers, both in migration and breeding, yellows reach peak abundance in wetlands with plenty of willows (*Salix* sp.). This is the broadest-ranging North American wood warbler, occurring over nearly the entire continent. There are three major groups; A) Yellow (our birds); B) Golden, of the Caribbean region; and C) Mangrove, of Mexico and Central America. Forty-three subspecies have been recognized within these groups. It is likely that new species will eventually be recognized within this complex.

NESTING HABITAT yellow warbler

One of our most common breeding warblers, nesting in every county. Yellow warblers reach peak densities in shrubby wetlands, although they will occupy drier brushy fields and woodland edges.

SONG yellow warbler

Sweet sweet sweet I'm so sweet, is an oft-employed mnemonic device for the cheery song of this common species. In general, the song has a loud, ringing, somewhat slurry quality that is easily recognized, although there will be frequent subtle variations in the songs. The song, which normally accelerates and has a bouncy quality to it, usually ends in a prominent upslurred note. On occasion, songs can resemble those of the chestnut-sided warbler, sometimes to a remarkable degree.

CALL yellow warbler

Typical call is a loud, almost explosive *chip* with a clear emphatic quality.



PHOTO (MALE) BY:
© JEFF WOLINGER

PHOTO (FEMALE) BY:
© GARY MESZAROS



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE yellow warbler



RECORDIST NOTES yellow warbler

Maine: 12 June 1956. Ohio: 4 May 1953;
29 May 1960; 4 May 1961; 15 May 1966;
8 May 1970; 12 May 1973.

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER

DENDROICA PENNSYLVANICA • DEN-DROY-KAH (TREE DWELLER) PEN-SIL-VAN-IH-KA (PENNSYLVANIA; LOCATION OF FIRST COLLECTION)

track In his extensive wanderings over eastern North America 200 years ago, famed explorer John James Audubon encountered this species but once. As settlers broke up the great old-growth forests, this species prospered, as it requires edge habitats and scruffy successional woodlands. Now, it would not be exceptional to see a few dozen in migration on a good May morning. Chestnut-sideds are increasing as nesters, too, particularly in the northern third of Ohio.

NESTING HABITAT chestnut-sided warbler

Generally uncommon and local; most frequent in northeastern Ohio. Breeders seem to be increasing and are occasionally found to southern Ohio. Occupies brushy successional fields, reverting clearcuts, and scruffy woodland margins.

SONG chestnut-sided warbler

While the song is reminiscent of the yellow warbler, a typical version is often stated as *pleased to, pleased to, meet CHU!* The final syllable is explosive, strongly upslurred, and quite distinctive. This song is easy to recognize; it is the longer, softer rambling alternate songs that can be confusing. Some are very similar to certain yellow warbler songs, and separation can be difficult at times. In general, songs have a loud, clear ringing quality.

CALL chestnut-sided warbler

A rather harsh chip note, with an almost strident quality. Slightly suggestive of the call note of a common yellowthroat.

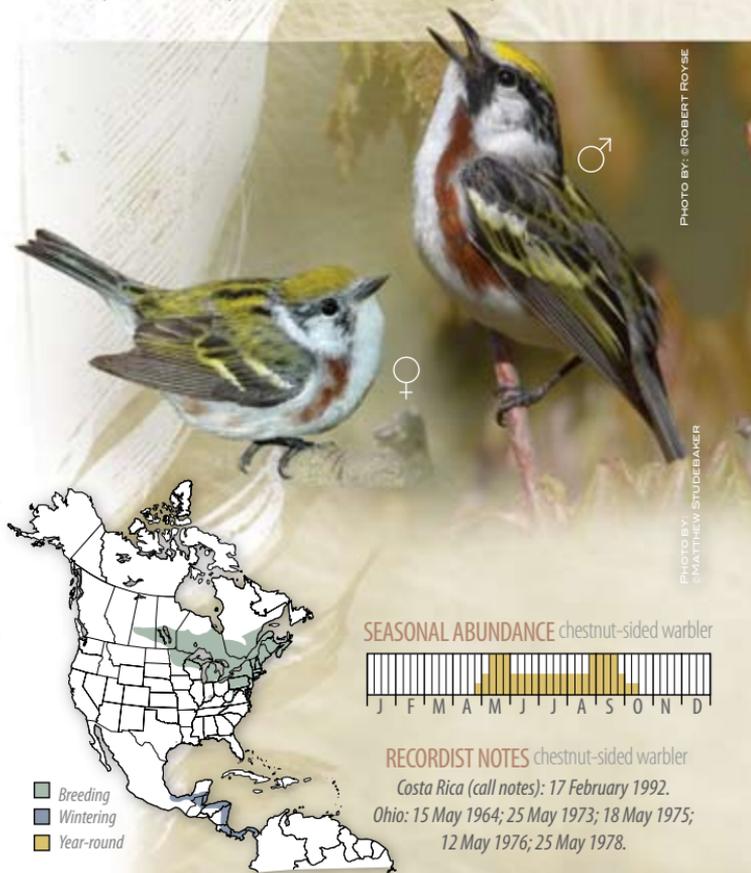


PHOTO BY: ROBERT ROYSE

PHOTO BY: MATTHEW STUDEBAKER

SEASONAL ABUNDANCE chestnut-sided warbler



RECORDIST NOTES chestnut-sided warbler

Costa Rica (call notes): 17 February 1992.

Ohio: 15 May 1964; 25 May 1973; 18 May 1975;

12 May 1976; 25 May 1978.

- Breeding
- Wintering
- Year-round

MAGNOLIA WARBLER

DENDROICA MAGNOLIA • DEN-DROY-KAH (TREE DWELLER) MAG-NOL-EE-AH (MAGNOLIA; NAMED BY ALEXANDER WILSON, WHO SHOT THE FIRST SPECIMEN IN A MAGNOLIA TREE)

track  Male magnolia warblers in breeding plumage are perhaps our most striking warbler, and also one of our most common migrants. They are sometimes called the “field mark bird,” as many identifying characteristics are obvious on the male – wingbar, eyeline, tail spots, streaks, etc. While common as a migrant, the magnolia warbler is a rare breeder, nesting only in our larger, high-quality hemlock gorges such as those found in Hocking County and Mohican State Forest.

NESTING HABITAT magnolia warbler

Very rare, local breeder. Confined to largest and best hemlock gorges. Most breed in boreal, coniferous forests, typically spruce-dominated woodlands.

SONG magnolia warbler

A rapid clear short series of undulating notes – *TEE-tsa TEE-tsa TEE-tas TEE-tsa swee-CHU!* Can be quite variable, but overall a rather soft, non-forceful song that often has an emphatic – or at least higher-pitched – ending note, sometimes suggestive of the end of a chestnut-sided warbler song. This is a song that can be easily lost amongst the morning cacophony of singers during a busy May morning.

CALL magnolia warbler

Sometimes described as “un-warbler-like”; a slightly hoarse or nasal *clenk* or *clink* sound. Flight call is a high-pitched soft and somewhat drawn-out *zee* or *zzipp*.



PHOTO BY: ©ROBERT ROYSE

PHOTO BY: ©VIREO-R & N BOWERS



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE magnolia warbler



RECORDIST NOTES magnolia warbler

Ohio: 10 May 1959; 10 May 1976;
10 May 1970; 18 May 1979.

CAPE MAY WARBLER

DENDROICA TIGRINA • DEN-DROY-KAH (TREE DWELLER) TY-GRE-NAH (STRIPED LIKE A TIGER)

track Cape May warblers can vary considerably in numbers from year to year. Their ecology is intimately linked to that of the spruce budworm, an insect that attacks spruce in the great belt of coniferous forests that blankets the northern U.S. and Canada. In budworm outbreak years, Cape May warblers have higher nesting success and we may see more of them as migrants in the fall and the following spring. It is hard to master vocalizations of boreal-nesting species like the Cape May warbler. Unless one travels to where they breed, there is but a short window of time each spring to learn their songs.

NESTING HABITAT cape may warbler

Doesn't nest in Ohio. Occupies the conifer-dominated boreal forest of Canada and the northern U.S., particularly where black spruce is common.

SONG cape may warbler

This song is a real test of one's hearing. Very high-pitched, the song typically consists of four to five (sometimes up to seven) fast, forceful whistles delivered very rapidly. A song often lasts but one second or so. Also can deliver a somewhat longer and more variable song, or draws out the monotone notes in a slower series. One version can sound astonishingly like a black-and-white warbler.

CALL cape may warbler

A hard, metallic *tsp*; somewhat reminiscent of a very quietly delivered waterthrush call note. Flight call is soft, sometimes with a vaguely buzzy quality – *tsee* or sometimes doubled *tsee tsee* that with a good listen appears to descend downwards.



PHOTO BY: © ROBERT ROYSE

PHOTO BY: © VIREO-N. BARNES



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE cape may warbler



RECORDIST NOTES cape may warbler

Ohio: 17 May 1959; 10 May 1967.

BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER

DENDROICA CAERULESCENS • DEN-DROY-KAH (TREE DWELLER) SEE-ROO-LES-ENS (BECOMING BLUE)

track 14 This is our most sexually dimorphic warbler species – males look very different than females. John James Audubon initially thought the different sexes were two species. Black-throated blues breed in northern forests, and in high elevation woodlands of the Appalachians. They usually forage close to the ground in woodland understory thickets, and are often tame and easily approached.

NESTING HABITAT black-throated blue warbler

Two documented Ohio breeding records, from 1928 and 1931. These records were from a boggy wetland complex in Ashtabula County that has largely been destroyed. Occasional territorial males appear, and this species may again be found nesting. Most breed in younger deciduous or mixed forests with abundant dense understory shrubs. Southern Appalachian breeders – subspecies *cairnsi* – occupy Rhododendron tangles.

SONG black-throated blue warbler

A rich, burry, multi-parted song that ascends; *zee, zee, zree*. Sometimes adds additional notes, but always has a low, husky quality, with the final phrase usually loudest and highest-pitched. One variant starts with a higher note and successive notes descend, but songs always retain at least some the rich burry quality.

CALL black-throated blue warbler

A junco-like soft *tick* note.

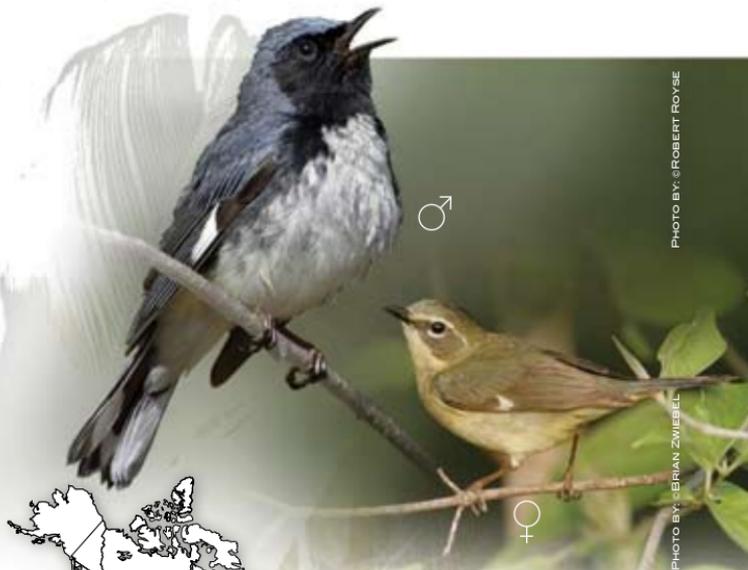


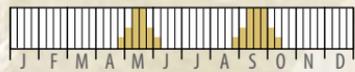
PHOTO BY: ©ROBERT ROYSE

PHOTO BY: ©ERIAN ZWIERGEL



- Breeding
- Wintering
- Year-round

SEASONAL ABUNDANCE black-throated blue warbler



RECORDIST NOTES black-throated blue warbler

Ohio: 5 May 1956; 17 May 1959;
7 May 1965; 21 May 1967.

YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER

DENDROICA CORONATA • DEN-DROY-KAH (TREE DWELLER) KOR-OH-NAY-TAH (CROWNED)

track 15

This is our most abundant migrant warbler and occurs nearly everywhere and in all types of habitats. Scores pass through in April and early May, and oftentimes yellow-rumps greatly outnumber all other species combined. It is also our hardiest warbler, and the only species likely to be encountered in winter. Late fall and winter birds are especially fond of poison ivy berries. This subspecies was formerly known as the myrtle warbler when it was considered distinct from Audubon's warbler (see next page).

NESTING HABITAT yellow-rumped warbler

Does not nest in Ohio. Occasional summering males are found, but these have all been unmated birds insofar as is known. Breeds throughout the boreal forest of Canada and the northern U.S. in coniferous woodlands.

SONG yellow-rumped warbler

One of the more difficult to recognize warbler songs; fortunately their abundance means that one has lots of exposure to yellow-rumped vocalizations. A rather variable series of one to a few weak trills, each series of a different pitch. The delivery is subdued and quiet and easily lost among more robust songsters.

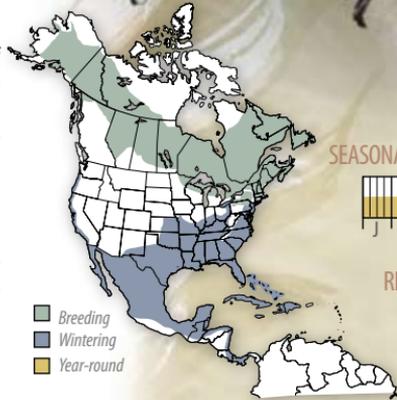
CALL yellow-rumped warbler

A loud, emphatic *chek!* This species is very vocal and call notes often tip one off to their presence. This is one of the easier warbler call notes to learn, in part because it is so frequently heard.



PHOTO BY: ROBERT ROYSE

PHOTO BY: TIM DANIEL



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE yellow-rumped warbler



RECORDIST NOTES yellow-rumped warbler

Maine: 17 June 1954; 13 July 1957.

Michigan: 28 April 1991.

Ohio: 16 April 1957; 30 April 1961.

AUDUBON'S WARBLER

DENDROICA CORONATA AUDUBONI • DEN-DROY-KAH (TREE DWELLER) KOR-OH-NAY-TAH (CROWNED) AUD-UH-BON-EYE (FOR JOHN JAMES AUDUBON 1785-1851)

track  A very rare vagrant is the western subspecies *auduboni* (Audubon's warbler) of the yellow-rumped warbler (myrtle warbler), of which there are several documented records. In most plumages, Audubon's warbler has a yellow throat, not the white throat of the myrtle warbler, which is the eastern subspecies. These subspecies were once considered distinct, and may someday be split into separate species again. Audubon's warbler songs and calls are quite similar to the myrtle warbler and would be hard to distinguish, especially in the east, where many birders are unaccustomed to the vocalizations of this western subspecies. The Audubon's warbler call note is often softer and more liquid than the myrtle; experienced birders can separate these two subspecies by call in the field.



PHOTO BY: © ROBERT ROYSE



RECORDIST NOTES *auduboni* warbler

Alaska: 7 June 1997.

Oregon: 24 July 1965.

Utah: 14 June 2000.

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER

DENDROICA VIRENS • DEN-DROY-KAH (TREE DWELLER) VY-RENS (GROWING GREEN)

track A common migrant both spring and fall. Totals of several hundred in a day during peak migration periods are not unheard of. Females are slightly duller than males, but otherwise very similar, and identification is easy. One of our earlier warblers to arrive in spring, often returning by the first week in April. Males can be persistent singers; one individual was recorded singing over 460 songs in one hour.

NESTING HABITAT black-throated green warbler

Largely confined to hemlock gorges as a nester, although occasionally breeds in pine plantations or very rarely large older-growth deciduous woodlands. Breeding populations seem to have remained stable over the past several decades, and may be slightly increasing.

SONG black-throated green warbler

Black-throated green warblers sing two primary song types. One is the Unaccented Ending song: *zee-zee-zoo-zoo-zee*. This is a territorial song given by males guarding territories and in agonistic interactions with other males. The Accented Ending song is *zee-zee-zee-zoo-zee* and is typically sung by unmated males or mated males that are close to females. Birds in migration will sing both versions.

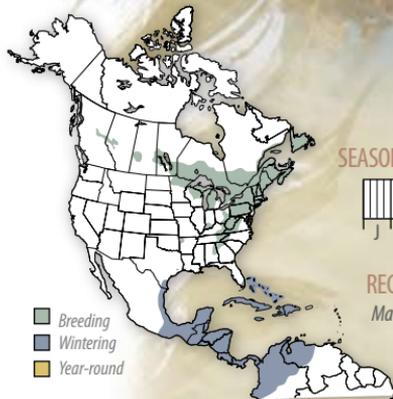
CALL black-throated green warbler

A soft musical *tick*, a bit sharper in tone than most warblers.

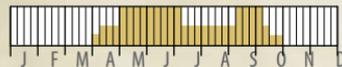


PHOTO BY: ©ROBERT ROYSE

PHOTO BY: ©MATTHEW STUDEBAKER



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE black-throated green warbler



RECORDIST NOTES black-throated green warbler

Maine: 10 June 1958; 25 June 1958; 4 July 1959;
15 July 1962. Ohio: 7 May 1965.

BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER

DENDROICA FUSCA • DEN-DROY-KAH (TREE DWELLER) FUS-KAH (DARK; REFERS TO BLACK FACE, CROWN, AND UPPER BACK)

track This "flame-throated" warbler (there is a tropical species named flame-throated warbler) is almost shocking in appearance, and a spring male in fresh plumage will not soon be forgotten. The common name references Anna Blackburn (1740-1793), a patron of ornithology and museum owner. Blackburnians are fairly common in migration, and spring females resemble a dull version of the male. These warblers typically feed at or near the ends of branches.

NESTING HABITAT blackburnian warbler

One of Ohio's rarest regularly breeding species, confined almost exclusively to the largest and least disturbed hemlock gorges. It is likely that some summering birds are unmated males, and even in a good year very few pairs successfully breed. Most nest in the boreal forest of Canada and the northern U.S., ranging south in the Appalachian mountains.

SONG blackburnian warbler

Very high-pitched and a real test of one's hearing. A slightly squeaky up and down trill, short in duration and often accelerating towards the end and becoming so high in pitch many people can't hear the song's conclusion.

CALL blackburnian warbler

A rather sharp, high *chick* or *tsick* note.



YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER

DENDROICA DOMINICA • DEN-DROY-KAH (TREE DWELLER) DOM-IN-IH-KA (ST. DOMINGO, NOW THE ISLAND OF HISPANIOLA WHERE THE FIRST SPECIMEN WAS COLLECTED)

track  Once known as the sycamore warbler, this species is intimately associated with that tree species. Consequently, yellow-throated warblers most often occur along streams where sycamores grow, although small numbers also use upland pine stands. Yellow-throateds return quite early and are on territory in southern Ohio by early April. By the early 1900s it had become quite scarce in Ohio, limited to the southernmost counties. It has since reclaimed much of its range and is still expanding northward.

NESTING HABITAT yellow-throated warbler

Primarily in riparian forests where large sycamores are common. Small numbers use upland pine groves, such as mature stands of Virginia or pitch pine.

SONG yellow-throated warbler

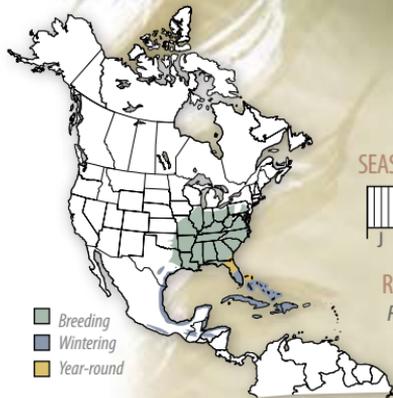
A loud, clear descending series of paired notes, usually with an upslurred ending note. Most similar to Louisiana waterthrush song, which is often heard in the same habitat, but lacks the complex jumbled ending of the waterthrush song. The waterthrush song is also much more forceful and emphatic; the intro to the yellow-throated warbler song sounds lazy and unhurried in comparison.

CALL yellow-throated warbler

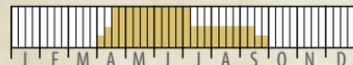
An emphatic, rather loud *tcheck!* Suggestive of a subdued common yellowthroat call.



PHOTO BY: GARY MIESZAROS



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE yellow-throated warbler



RECORDIST NOTES yellow-throated warbler

Florida: 19 March 1973. Ohio: 31 May 1954;
1 May 1979; 11 May 1984.

PINE WARBLER

DENDROICA PINUS • DEN-DROY-KAH (TREE DWELLER) PY-NUS (A PINE TREE)

track 20 Aptly named, pine warblers are always found around pines, even in migration if that habitat is available. Their range is largely dictated by the distribution of native pines, although some have successfully exploited large stands of planted pines. In Ohio, there are only four species of native pine and all have narrow distributions; thus, so does the pine warbler. This is a hardy warbler and is routinely found overwintering in northern latitudes and sometimes visits feeders.

NESTING HABITAT pine warbler

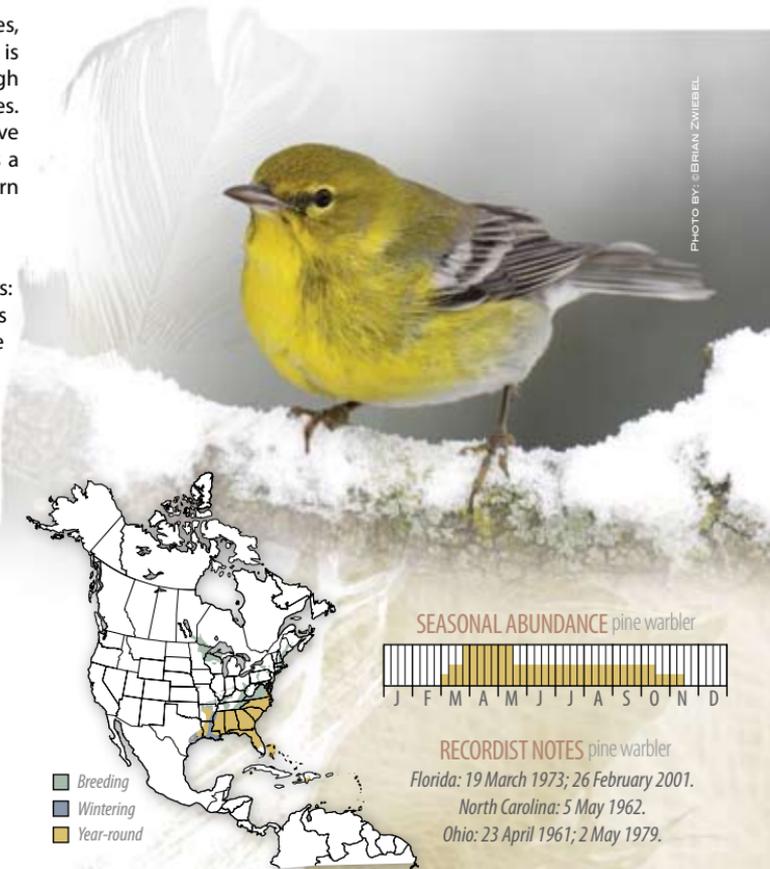
Predominately in older-growth stands of our four native pines: pitch, shortleaf, Virginia, and white. Sometimes occupies mature pine plantations, such as groves of red pine and white pine in the Oak Openings region.

SONG pine warbler

One of a potentially confusing group of “trillsters” that all sing uniform, somewhat monotonous trills. This group includes this species, worm-eating warbler, chipping and swamp sparrows, and dark-eyed junco. Habitat can be helpful; pine warblers will seldom if ever be heard in swamp sparrow habitat, and if the song comes from high in a pine, there’s a good chance it is this species. Normally a pine warbler delivers a somewhat rushed, sweet-sounding trill that is more musical than the chipping sparrow, which is the most likely source of confusion. However, some songs of the two species can be extremely hard to separate.

CALL pine warbler

A rather sharp and sweet-sounding *chip*.



KIRTLAND'S WARBLER

DENDROICA KIRTLANDII • DEN-DROY-KAH (TREE DWELLER) KERT-LAND-EE-EYE (JARED POTTER KIRTLAND 1793-1877; DISCOVERER OF THIS WARBLER)

track 21

This is the rarest warbler in the U.S. and is listed as federally endangered. Almost 1,500 singing males were tallied on their jack pine-dominated breeding grounds in northern Michigan in 2007, a modern-day high. In 1987, only 167 birds could be found. Their habitat parameters are quite narrow; Kirtland's warbler only accepts stands of jack pine between about 5 and 15 years of age. Increased sophistication of habitat management has brought this large warbler back from the brink. Probably all or nearly all of the population passes through Ohio in migration, but only one or two are detected here most years, almost all in spring. Jared Kirtland discovered this species near Cleveland, Ohio on May 13, 1851.

NESTING HABITAT kirtland's warbler

Does not nest in Ohio. Breeds only in young jack pine (*Pinus banksiana*) stands, almost exclusively in northern Michigan although a few may nest in nearby Ontario, Canada and Wisconsin.

SONG kirtland's warbler

A short, loud ringing song of clear forceful notes, somewhat suggestive of the Northern waterthrush. The beginning notes almost have a reverberating quality. Quite distinctive if heard well.

CALL kirtland's warbler

A loud, clear, *tchik!*



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE kirtland's warbler

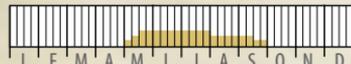


Chart applies to breeding range.

RECORDIST NOTES kirtland's warbler

Michigan: 1 June 1957; 31 May 1957;
12 June 1966; 25 May 2003.

PHOTO BY:
ROBERT ROYSE

PHOTO BY:
JEFF WELFINGER

PRAIRIE WARBLER

DENDROICA DISCOLOR • DEN-DROY-KAH (TREE DWELLER) DIS-COL-OR (OF DIFFERENT COLORS)

track ²² While most of our warblers are woodland species, prairie warblers require scruffy successional habitats. Few other warblers share their haunts. The song is unmistakable and quite easy to learn. The window to hear prairie warblers is short: most arrive in late April and males have largely ceased singing by the end of June. Most prairie warblers have already departed for the wintering grounds by early July.

NESTING HABITAT prairie warbler

Dependent upon scrubby successional habitats like old fields, young clearcuts, cedar barrens, and the like. This habitat is generally not highly valued nor intentionally managed for, thus its distribution is often spotty and localized and so are prairie warblers in many areas.

SONG prairie warbler

An easily learned rapidly ascending series of short clear notes. Some song variants can sound similar to field sparrows or even the Nashville warbler.

CALL prairie warbler

A rather throaty *tslip!* Very similar to palm warbler and difficult to separate.



PALM WARBLER

DENDROICA PALMARUM • DEN-DROY-KAH (TREE DWELLER) PAL-MAR-UM (OF THE PALMS, REFERS TO HISPANIOLA WINTERING GROUNDS WHERE FIRST SPECIMEN WAS TAKEN)

track 23

Habitual tail-waggers, palm warblers are usually seen foraging on the ground. The scientific epithet *palmarum* is somewhat misleading. While palm trees may figure into its wintering habitat, this species breeds in the far north, occupying cold tamarack bogs and open coniferous woodlands. There are two distinctive subspecies, Eastern (*hypochrysea*) and Western (nominate subspecies *palmarum*). Virtually all Ohio birds are the less colorful Western subspecies, but occasionally a bright yellow *hypochrysea* bird is found.

NESTING HABITAT palm warbler

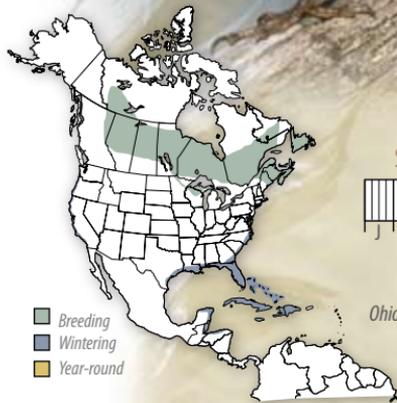
Does not nest in Ohio. Breeds in open spruce and tamarack woodlands in and around bogs in Canada and the northern United States.

SONG palm warbler

A rather weak and inconspicuous trill that can be lost amongst the cacophony of bolder singers in spring migration. The notes are rather monotonous and uniform, with a slightly musical quality. Songs are often rather variable.

CALL palm warbler

A forceful, slightly downslurred rich *chip*; very similar to prairie warbler call note.



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE palm warbler



RECORDIST NOTES palm warbler

Ohio: 28 April 1957; 24 April 1960; 29 April 1960.

PHOTO BY: © ROBERT ROYSE

PALM WARBLER (EASTERN SUBSPECIES)

DENDROICA PALMARUM HYPOCHRYSEA • DEN-DROY-KAH (TREE DWELLER) PAL-MAR-UM (OF THE PALMS, REFERS TO HISPANIOLA) HY-PO-KRY-SEE-AH (GOLDEN UNDERSIDE)

track 24 These tracks were recorded in Maine on June 12, 1999. The song is faster, more forcefully delivered and pine warbler-like than the nominate western subspecies *palmarum* on this CD, but some Western palm warbler songs can approach this. Call notes of the two subspecies seem nearly identical. More research is needed on vocal differences between these very distinctive subspecies. In general, eastern palm warblers are much brighter and more extensively yellow underneath. They are rare in Ohio, and most likely to appear in late fall or even early winter.

Subspecies *hypochrysea* breeds from central Quebec and the Canadian maritime provinces south to New England and the southeastern part of Ontario. They winter primarily in Florida and the southeastern coastal states. The breeding and winter distributions of the two palm warbler subspecies are largely separated from one another, although the two mingle somewhat on wintering grounds.

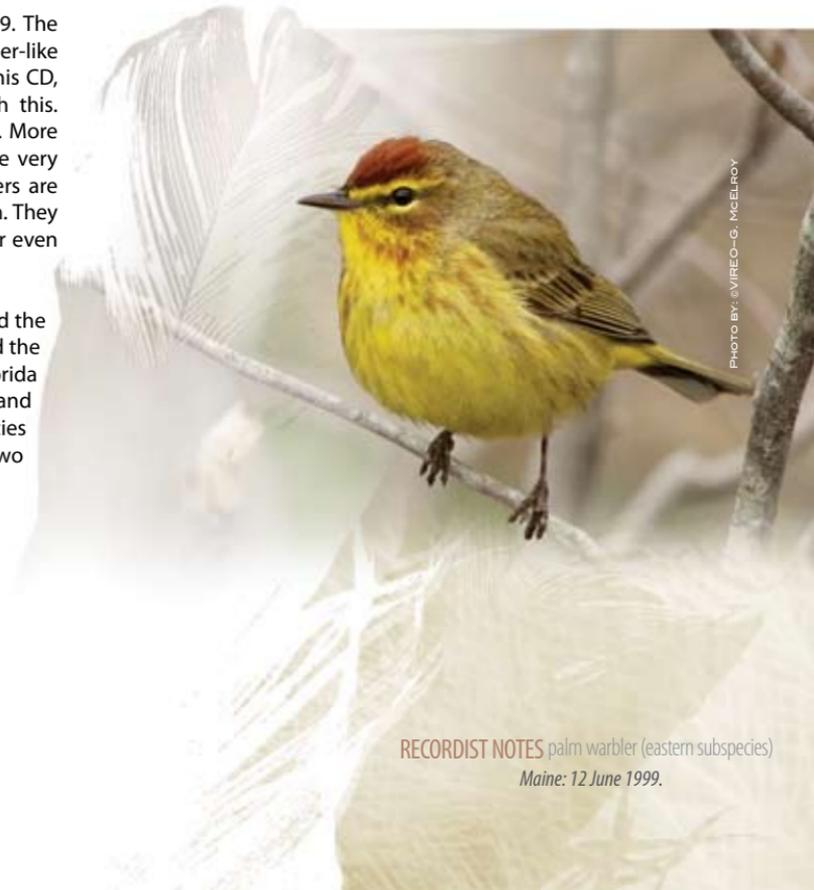


PHOTO BY: ©VIREO-G. McELROY

RECORDIST NOTES palm warbler (eastern subspecies)

Maine: 12 June 1999.

BAY-BREASTED WARBLER

DENDROICA CASTANEA • DEN-DROY-KAH (TREE DWELLER) CAS-TAIN-EE-AH (A CHESTNUT; REFERS TO COLORATION OF BREEDING PLUMAGED MALES)

track ²⁵ This is one of a group of boreal forest warblers, breeding throughout the vast coniferous woodlands of Canada and the northern U.S. The bay-breasted warbler, like several other species, specializes in feeding on spruce budworm (*Choristoneura fumiferana*). Budworm outbreaks are cyclical, causing boom and bust years among the warblers that exploit them. Efforts to control budworm infestations have undoubtedly reduced the overall population of bay-breasted warblers.

NESTING HABITAT bay-breasted warbler

Does not nest in Ohio. Occupies mature coniferous boreal forest, especially where bogs create scattered breaks in the woodlands.

SONG bay-breasted warbler

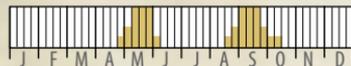
A very high-pitched (hard for many people to hear) series of about five (can be three to ten) notes, mostly on the same pitch. An easy song to overlook, particularly when other more boisterous singers are dominating the airwaves.

CALL bay-breasted warbler

A loud, slightly slurred *chip* or *chak* note, quite similar to the blackpoll warbler.



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE bay-breasted warbler



RECORDIST NOTES bay-breasted warbler

New York: 3 June 1989.

Ohio: 11 May 1979; 20 May 1990.



PHOTO BY: ROBERT ROYSE

PHOTO BY: BRIAN ZWIBEL

BLACKPOLL WARBLER

DENDROICA STRIATA • DEN-DROY-KAH (TREE DWELLER) STRY-ATE-AH (STRIPED)

track ²⁶ This is the champion long distance migrant songbird. Another of the spruce budworm specialists, blackpolls nest in the vast coniferous forests of Canada, Alaska, and northern New England. Most winter east of the Andes in Brazil, Colombia, Venezuela, and adjoining countries. Some have been found as far south as the 40° of latitude in Argentina. It is possible that some blackpolls migrate nearly 8,000 miles one-way. In fall, many birds fly a trans-oceanic route across the Atlantic from New England to South America. Such a flight might take three days.

NESTING HABITAT blackpoll warbler

Does not nest in Ohio. Breeds primarily in stunted coniferous forests dominated by fir and spruce.

SONG blackpoll warbler

A high-pitched series of piping notes that sounds like steam being released in bursts from a kettle. While the sound is in the upper ranges of hearing and hard for some people to hear, it is easily recognized if you can hear it.

CALL blackpoll warbler

Essentially identical to bay-breasted warbler.



CERULEAN WARBLER

DENDROICA CERULEA • DEN-DROY-KAH (TREE DWELLER) SEE-ROO-LEE-AH (SKY BLUE)

track 27

Often held up as the poster child of declining neotropical birds, cerulean warblers have declined by about 70 percent over the last several decades. Large southeastern Ohio woodlands support some of the best remaining breeding populations. This is a canopy specialist, typically remaining high in the crowns of oaks and stimulating cases of “warbler neck” amongst those who study them. Song is the best way to locate cerulean warblers.

NESTING HABITAT cerulean warbler

Most cerulean warblers breed in upland oak-hickory forests, but some also utilize mature riparian woodlands. They are area-sensitive and generally require large unbroken woodlands, and reach peak abundance where uneven aged trees create a non-uniform canopy.

SONG cerulean warbler

A buzzy, ascending series of accelerating notes terminating in a drawn-out buzz. A rare variant begins with rapidly delivered sputtering notes; much less musical in tone. Songs are generally easily recognized and normally the best way to find birds.

CALL cerulean warbler

This species doesn't seem to call very often; note is a clear rich chip.



PHOTO BY © ROBERT ROYSE



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE cerulean warbler



RECORDIST NOTES cerulean warbler

Indiana: 9 & 22 June 2005.
Ohio: 5 May 1957; 16 May 1959; 13 May 1964;
13 June 1974; 13 June 1987.

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER

MINIOTILTA VARIA • NEE-OH-TILT-AH (MOSS PLUCKER) VAR-EE-AH (VARIED, IN REFERENCE TO THE PLUMAGE)

track 28

Once known as the pied creeper, black-and-whites forage along the surface of tree trunks and branches in the manner of a nuthatch or brown creeper. This warbler has an extended hind claw on its feet which aids in gripping bark. This species is a good example of how knowing songs will aid in finding birds. Black-and-white warblers are not rare, but are quite inconspicuous and easily missed on their breeding grounds. Familiarity with their song will result in finding many more birds.

NESTING HABITAT black-and-white warbler

Occupies mature deciduous woodlands with plenty of large trees, ranging from riparian terraces to upland forests.

SONG black-and-white warbler

A high-pitched evenly paced series of paired notes, the first note higher, that sounds very much like a squeaking wheel being slowly rotated.

CALL black-and-white warbler

A rather loud, somewhat harsh *tchek!*



PHOTO BY: JEFF WOLKOFF

PHOTO BY: VITO-B. SCHORR



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE black-and-white warbler



RECORDIST NOTES black-and-white warbler

Maine: 27 June 1961. Michigan: 1 June 1957.

Ohio: 8 June 1975.

AMERICAN REDSTART

SETOPHAGA RUTICILLA • SET-OFF-AY-GAH (MOTH EATER, ESSENTIALLY) ROO-TIH-SIL-AH (RED TAIL)

track 29

Redstarts are easily distinguished by their bright patches of color in the wing and tail. Adult males are black, with orange flashes; first-year males and females are browner with yellow flashes (yellowstarts). This is a hyperactive warbler, constantly darting about lunging after insects and chronically flicking the wings and fanning the tail. It is an often abundant warbler in migration, and can be quite common as a breeder in suitable habitats.

NESTING HABITAT american redstart

Breeds in dense shady understory shrub zones of forests, reaching peak numbers on lower slopes and stream terraces.

SONG american redstart

Quite variable; sometimes maddeningly difficult to recognize. Seems to vary in volume as well, with some songs having a very muted delivery while others are rather loud and forceful. Most songs are accented on the ending; they begin with a short series of rapid clear notes and terminate in an upslurred slightly explosive *zeeapp* note. Other songs are more subdued and suggest the black-and-white warbler, chestnut-sided warbler or others.

CALL american redstart

Like a softer, less emphatic yellow warbler; a slightly slurred *chip*.



PHOTO BY: ROBERT ROYSE

PHOTO BY: BRIAN ZWIEBEL

PROTHONOTARY WARBLER

PROTHONOTARIA CITREA • PRO-TONN-OH-TAR-EE-AH (AN AUTHORIZED SCRIBE, AFTER YELLOW-ROBED CATHOLIC CLERGY) SIT-REE-AH (*CITRUS YELLOW*)

track  Males are a brilliant-yellowish-orange with bluish-gray wings; females are only slightly duller. The only warbler that looks remotely similar is the blue-winged, which has prominent wing bars and an entirely different habitat. This is the only cavity-nesting warbler in eastern North America. Some populations, such as those around the upper end of Hoover Reservoir near Columbus, have been greatly bolstered by placing nest boxes in suitable habitat.

NESTING HABITAT prothonotary warbler

Wet woods with plenty of standing dead timber have the best populations. Also found frequently in riparian forests and in woods bordering lakes and reservoirs.

SONG prothonotary warbler

A loud, somewhat unmusical and monotone series of rapid notes: *swee-swee-swee-swee-swee-swee*. Varies in the number of individual notes, and occasionally in the speed of delivery.

CALL prothonotary warbler

A loud, slightly metallic *chip*.



PHOTO BY: GARY MIESZAROS

PHOTO BY: ERIC ZWIBEL



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE prothonotary warbler



RECORDIST NOTES prothonotary warbler

Ohio: 22 May 1954; 22 May 1964.

WORM-EATING WARBLER

HELMITHEROS VERMIVORUM • HEL-MITH-ER-OHS (BUG HUNTER) VER-MIV-OR-UM (WORM EATER)

track Understated for a warbler, but nonetheless striking when seen well in good light. Few paintings or photos truly do a worm-eating warbler justice. They don't actually eat earthworms, at least not commonly, but do consume many caterpillars. Worm-eating warblers frequently forage by using their heavy spike-like bill to probe through clusters of dead hanging leaves, which often harbor the larvae of moths as well as other insects. This is one of six ground-nesting warblers that breed in Ohio.

NESTING HABITAT worm-eating warbler

Steep, heavily forested slopes with well developed shrubby understories. Peak numbers are in the unglaciated region of southeastern Ohio, but some can be found in wooded ravines elsewhere.

SONG worm-eating warbler

A dry or husky monotonous trill that lasts about two seconds and increases slightly in volume. The notes are delivered very rapidly, far too fast to count. Suggestive of other trill singers such as chipping sparrow and pine warbler, but more rapid, drier in tone, and insect-like.

CALL worm-eating warbler

A fairly loud smacking *chip*.



PHOTO BY ©ROBERT ROYSE



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE worm-eating warbler



RECORDIST NOTES worm-eating warbler

Ohio: 9 May 1959; 3 June 1962.

West Virginia: 10 May 1963.

SWAINSON'S WARBLER

LIMNOTHLYPIS SWAINSONII • LIM-NO-THLIP-ISS (MARSH WARBLER) SWAIN-SON-EE-EYE (FOR WILLIAM SWAINSON, 1789-1855)

track 

This is one of the most secretive and poorly understood North American warblers. Its retiring habits and dense, hard to access habitats make finding Swainson's warbler a challenge. They are much likelier to be heard than seen. Occasionally a Swainson's appears far north of the nesting range in April and May, and rarely, a territorial male will occupy suboptimal habitat north of known breeding populations. A very rare Ohio species, with several records in spring migration, and a few reports of territorial males in summer. Breeds in eastern Kentucky and northern West Virginia, not far south of Ohio.

NESTING HABITAT swainson's warbler

Canebrakes dominated by the grass *Arundinaria gigantea* on floodplain terraces; sometimes in other dense shrubby growth along streams. Montane or highland populations occupy cool gorges where rhododendrons, primarily Catawba rosebay, *Rhododendron catawbiense*, are the dominant shrub. Prospecting unmated males may briefly occupy scruffy successional clearcuts on steep slopes.

SONG swainson's warbler

A beautiful, loud, clear series of about six notes, the first descending and the last upslurred. Can be very reminiscent of a Louisiana waterthrush song, but lacks the jumbled ending of that species.

CALL swainson's warbler

A loud *chip* that suggests the call of the prothonotary warbler or waterthrush.



PHOTO BY: © VIREO-DOUG WIEHSLER



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE swainson's warbler



Chart applies to breeding range.

RECORDIST NOTES swainson's warbler

West Virginia: 29 May 1966.

OVENBIRD

SEIURUS AUROCAPILLA • SY-YOUR-US (TO WAVE TAIL, AFTER WATERTHRUSHES IN THIS GENUS) ARE-OH-CAP-ILL-AH (GOLD HAIR, FOR THE GOLDEN CROWN)



One of the commonest warblers of the eastern deciduous forest, the ovenbird's loud, distinctive song is a very characteristic sound in our woodlands. This species is rather un-warbler-like both in appearance and habit. It looks like a small wood thrush, and spends much time foraging on the ground in leaf litter. Like many birds that habitually feed on the ground, ovenbirds walk rather than hop. The unusual name stems from the appearance of its nest, which is placed on the ground and suggests an old-fashioned brick oven.

NESTING HABITAT ovenbird

Mature deciduous woodlands or mixed forests, generally in well-drained sites that typically have sparse understory growth.

SONG ovenbird

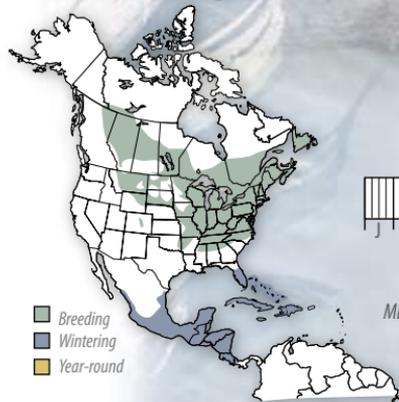
A loud ringing *Tea-cher, Tea-cher, Tea-cher...* ascending in volume as the song progresses. Less often heard is a flight song – similar versions given while perched – that is much more varied and complex, but usually contains at least one typical phrase. A version of this song starts at 0:32 on the ovenbird track on the accompanying CD.

CALL ovenbird

A forceful, rather dry *tchick!* Suggests a subdued brown thrasher call note.



PHOTO BY ©ROBERT ROYSE



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE ovenbird



RECORDIST NOTES ovenbird

Michigan: 16 June 1972. Ohio: 29 April 1959;
14 May 1974; 14 May 1989.

NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH

SEIURUS NOVEBORACENSIS • SY-YOUR-US (TO WAVE TAIL) NO-VEE-BORE-AH-SENS-ISS (OF NEW YORK; TYPE LOCALITY FOR THIS SPECIES)

track 34

This is a common migrant, but a rare Ohio nester. Northern waterthrushes are almost always associated with standing water in swampy woodlands, and frequent such habitat even in migration if it is available. Confusion with the Louisiana waterthrush is common, and the two are very similar in appearance. The Northern waterthrush is a much later migrant, not appearing until after the Louisiana waterthrush is already on territory, which is in a completely different habitat.

NESTING HABITAT northern waterthrush

Low-lying wet woods that are waterlogged year-round. As the name implies, this is a northern species and nesters are rare and confined to a few counties of northeastern Ohio. Generally, the Ohio breeders are found in large, undisturbed swamps and margins of relict boreal habitats like bog margins.

SONG northern waterthrush

A loud, rich warble that accelerates and drops in pitch as the song proceeds. The clear notes are typically segregated into three series. This song has carrying power and can be heard from long distances. Sometimes the songs are truncated or have complicated twists added in the form of soft rapidly jumbled notes. Latter versions usually given in flight.

CALL northern waterthrush

A loud, clear metallic *chip* or *chink*, very similar to Louisiana waterthrush, but somewhat sharper and more emphatic.



PHOTO BY © ROBERT ROYSE



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE northern waterthrush



RECORDIST NOTES northern waterthrush

Ontario, Canada: 25-27 June 1973;
14 June 1974.

LOUISIANA WATER THRUSH

SEIURUS MOTACILLA • SY-YOUR-US (TO WAVE TAIL) MO-TAH-SIL-AH (WAGTAIL)

track

Our earliest long-distance migrant warbler to return to breeding grounds, the loud, ringing songs of Louisiana waterthrushes can be heard by late March. They are also among the first warblers to depart, with most leaving Ohio by early August. While similar in appearance to the Northern waterthrush, their songs are completely different. Also, the Louisiana waterthrush is rarely found outside of its breeding habitat, and all have normally returned before the Northern waterthrushes arrive. Any waterthrush seen after May 1 outside of the breeding habitat of this species is far more likely to be a Northern.

NESTING HABITAT *louisiana waterthrush*

An obligate stream species, nesting along small to medium-sized rocky waterways buffered by large stands of mature forest. Louisiana waterthrushes are often observed foraging among rocks and cut banks adjacent to streams.

SONG *louisiana waterthrush*

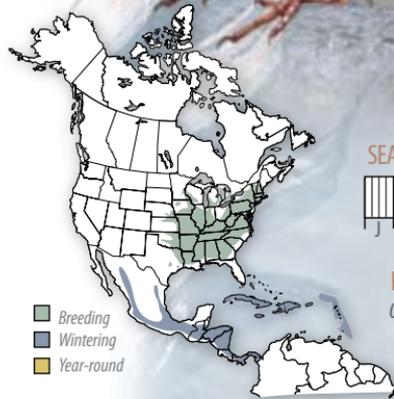
A loud, clear ringing series of slurred, descending notes usually ending in a fantastically tangled jumble of notes. Sometimes truncates song before the jumbled ending, or greatly draws out ending (extended version sometimes given in flight). The beginning part of the song suggests that of a yellow-throated warbler.

CALL *louisiana waterthrush*

An emphatic and loud *chip*, very much like a Northern waterthrush, but a bit softer, flatter, and less forceful. Waterthrush calls are among the loudest of the warblers.



PHOTO BY: © GARY MIESZANOS



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE *louisiana waterthrush*



RECORDIST NOTES *louisiana waterthrush*

Ohio: 13 April, 1 May, 9 May & 3 June 1956;
31 May 1973.

KENTUCKY WARBLER

OPORORNIS FORMOSUS • OP-OR-OR-NIS (END OF SUMMER BIRD) FOR-MO-SUS (BEAUTIFUL)

track

Ohio is near the northern limits of their range and Kentucky warblers become increasingly scarce northwards in the state. By far the greatest densities occur in the large forests of southeastern Ohio, where it can be quite common. This warbler can be frustratingly difficult to observe as it lurks in the dense, shady forest understory. Knowing the song is the key to finding this beautiful warbler.

NESTING HABITAT kentucky warbler

Mature deciduous forests with a lush understory of young saplings and shrubs like spicebush. Infestations by invasive plants such as bush honeysuckles have probably degraded this species' habitat in some regions.

SONG kentucky warbler

A rich monotone chanting that resembles the sound of hoof beats of a distant galloping horse. Somewhat variable and occasionally sounds much like a Carolina wren or ovenbird.

CALL kentucky warbler

A forceful low *chuk* note is perhaps most commonly given, but other calls include a higher-pitched *tchik* note. Kentucky warblers energetically scold intruders venturing too near their nests.

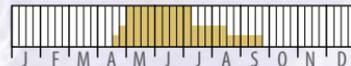


PHOTO BY: ROBERT ROYSE



- Breeding
- Wintering
- Year-round

SEASONAL ABUNDANCE kentucky warbler



RECORDIST NOTES kentucky warbler

Kentucky: 26 April 1969. North Carolina: 29 June 1987. Ohio: 30 & 31 May 1954; 8 May 1955; 11 May 1958; 15 May 1959; 6 May 1965; 13 May 1972. Virginia: 8 June 1985.

CONNECTICUT WARBLER

OPORORNIS AGILIS • OP-OR-OR-NIS (END OF SUMMER BIRD) AH-JIL-ISS (ACTIVE, ODD CHOICE; THIS IS ONE OF OUR MORE SLUGGISH WARBLERS)



Other than Kirtland's warbler, this is the warbler holy grail for many North American birders. Few birds generate as much excitement, and finding a Connecticut warbler is always noteworthy. There just aren't many of them; the overall population is far lower than most warblers. Compounding the difficulty of locating one is their late migration. Most Connecticuts pass through from mid-May into early June, after the vegetation is fully leafed out. These skulkers are often detected by their song.

NESTING HABITAT connecticut warbler

Doesn't nest in Ohio. Breeds primarily in open coniferous forests of bog margins; sometimes old logged-over sites that are recovering.

SONG connecticut warbler

A short series of loud snappy notes with a rather hesitant quality, unlike other *Oporornis* warblers. Suggests the terminal end of a Northern waterthrush song but in general is quite distinctive and knowing it will greatly aid your chances of finding a Connecticut warbler.

CALL connecticut warbler

Not often heard nor well understood. Apparently Connecticut warblers don't often give call notes, unlike other *Oporornis* warblers. The ones on this recording are soft, almost whistled *pik* notes and were of a bird recorded in migration in Ohio.



PHOTO BY: © ROBERT ROYSE



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE connecticut warbler



RECORDIST NOTES connecticut warbler

Michigan: 25 May 2003. Ohio: 20 May 1956;
24 May 1958; 14 May 1981.

COMMON YELLOWTHROAT

GEOTHLYPIS TRICHAS • JEE-OH-THLY-PIS (A KIND OF FINCH, TERRIBLY MISNAMED) TRI-KAS (A THRUSH, EVEN MORE OF A BUNGLED NAME)



Perhaps the most common breeding warbler in Ohio and much of the east. The males resemble little masked bandits and are easily recognized. Females and immatures are more challenging but have a distinctive shape: slender-bodied and big-headed, long legs, and long tail. Yellowthroats are hardy, and a few can be found in Ohio and similar latitudes each winter, often in marshes with dense cattail stands. Many more yellowthroats will be heard than seen, but they respond well to squeaking or pishing and can thus be lured into view.

NESTING HABITAT common yellowthroat

Peak numbers occur in wet shrubby meadows and marshes, cattail stands, etc. Also occupies drier thickets, scruffy woodland borders, and successional fields.

SONG common yellowthroat

Typical song is a loud ringing *witchity-witchity-witchity-witchity*. Song can be variable but usually follows this pattern, although some birds can sing quite different songs. A fascinating variant starting at 0:43 on the CD sounds much like a field sparrow; this is likely an example of mimicry.

CALL common yellowthroat

Learning call notes is a good way to detect this species, particularly outside of the breeding season. Typical call is a loud, harsh *Chak!*

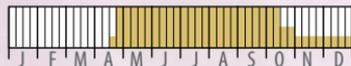


PHOTO BY: ROBERT ROYSE

PHOTO BY: VIREO-R & N BOWERS



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE common yellowthroat



RECORDIST NOTES common yellowthroat

New York: 11 May 1987. Ohio: 19 May 1954; 2 June 1957; 13 May 1961; 12 May 1962; 6 May 1972; 12 May 1973.

HOODED WARBLER

WILSONIA CITRINA • WIL-SON-EE-AH (FOR ALEXANDER WILSON, 1766-1813, THE "FATHER OF AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGY") SIT-REE-NAH (LEMON COLORED)

track 40

This gorgeous warbler breeds commonly in eastern deciduous forests, and is most easily detected by song in their densely vegetated haunts. As a morphological adaptation to life in perpetual shade, they have the largest eyes of any warbler. Hooded warblers are typically hyperactive; flitting through the vegetation in pursuit of insects, all the while fanning their tails to reveal white flashes in the outer tail feathers.

NESTING HABITAT hooded warbler

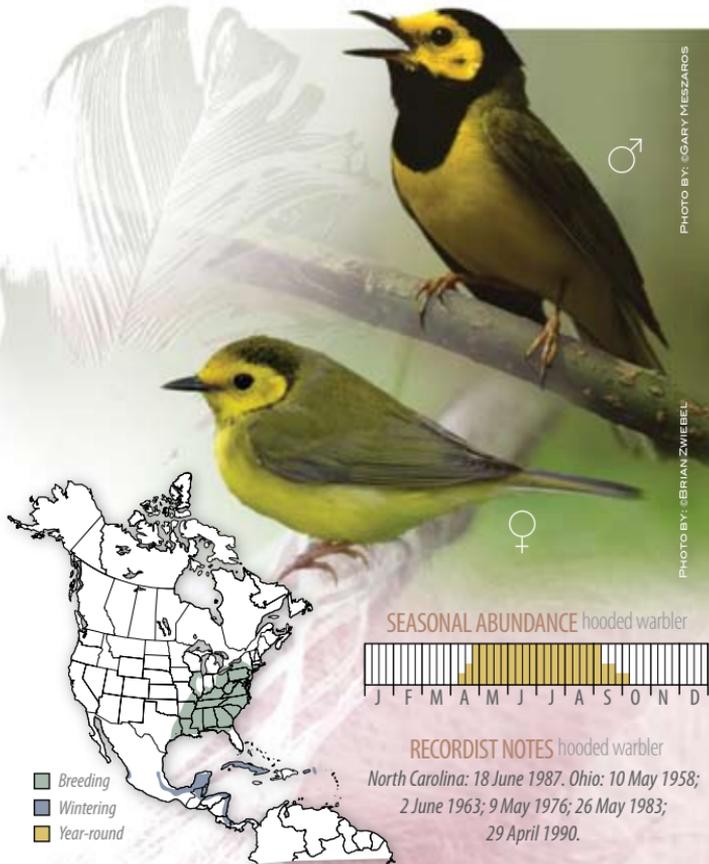
Larger tracts of mature woodlands; always where a well-developed dense understory of saplings and shrubs occurs. In some regions, infestation by non-native bush honeysuckles has reduced the quality of habitat for this species.

SONG hooded warbler

A loud, clear, *weety-weety-weety-choo!* A commonly delivered secondary song is softer and more jumbled, but still retains the clear whistled vocal quality of the primary song.

CALL hooded warbler

A loud, rich, rather sharp *chip* suggestive of a waterthrush.



WILSON'S WARBLER

WILSONIA PUSILLA • WIL-SON-EE-AH (FOR ALEXANDER WILSON, 1766-1813) PEW-SIL-AH (VERY SMALL, OF THE EASTERN WARBLERS ONLY THE PRAIRIE WARBLER IS AS SMALL)

track 41 This is possibly our most hyperactive warbler, constantly flitting about the vegetation chasing after insects and making short flycatcher-like sallies to grab prey. Fortunately they tend to remain low in shrub zones, often at or below eye level. Wilson's warbler is typically one of our later migrant warblers, and individuals are still passing through Ohio on their way north in early June.

This species and its genus – *Wilsonia* – was named for the “Father of American Ornithology,” Alexander Wilson. Wilson was productive in his short life – several other birds are named in his honor, including Wilson's storm-petrel and Wilson's phalarope.

NESTING HABITAT *wilson's warbler*

Does not nest in Ohio. Breeds in densely shrubby wetlands with thick herbaceous ground cover, often in willow thickets. Migrants frequent similar habitat if available.

SONG *wilson's warbler*

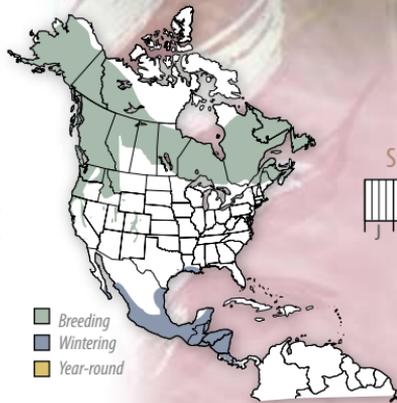
A fast chattering trill that drops in pitch towards the end, each note downslurred. A rather inconspicuous song that doesn't stand out from the cacophony of louder spring singers.

CALL *wilson's warbler*

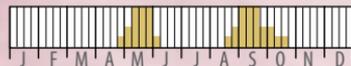
A loud, rough *jitt* that is reminiscent of the call notes of winter wren, at least the western wrens. Distinctive and can be easily learned with practice.



PHOTO BY: BRIAN ZWIEBEL



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE *wilson's warbler*



RECORDIST NOTES *wilson's warbler*

Costa Rica: 18 February 1994 (call notes).

Ohio: 18 May 1958; 17 May 1961;

21 May 1967; 30 May 1971.

CANADA WARBLER

WILSONIA CANADENSIS • WIL-SON-EE-AH (FOR ALEXANDER WILSON, 1766-1813, THE "FATHER OF AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGY") CAN-AH-DENS-ISS (OF CANADA)

track 42 A striking and very distinctive species, male Canada warblers sport a dark necklace that looks as if it were drawn with a leaky fountain pen. While it breeds widely across the eastern boreal forest of Canada and the northern U.S., Canada warblers are rare, local breeders south of that region. Overall, this is not an abundant warbler, and finding more than a few in one day is always noteworthy.

NESTING HABITAT canada warbler

Ohio nesters occur in mature, undisturbed hemlock gorges, and occupy narrow eco-niches where tree falls have opened up small areas to sunlight, stimulating thick growths of shrubby vegetation. More general in the core of its boreal breeding range, but always in densely shrubby sites.

SONG canada warbler

A rather loud, rapidly delivered series of sweet emphatic notes that typically end in an upslurred note. The song is quite short in duration, lasting only two seconds. Compare with the magnolia warbler, which is similar and often nests in proximity to Canada warblers.

CALL canada warbler

An emphatic *chip* note.



YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT

ICTERIA VIRENS • IK-TER-EE-AH (THE JAUNDICE, REFERRING TO YELLOW UNDERPARTS) VY-RENS (GREEN, REFERRING TO UPPERPARTS)

track 43

This is a strange and very un-warbler-like warbler, in appearance, behavior, and song. This is our largest warbler, measuring 7.5 inches and weighing 25 grams. For comparison, prairie warblers, which often occur in the same habitat, are less than five inches long and weigh eight grams. Chats lurk in dense thickets, and are usually far easier to hear than see. Their vocal repertoire is fantastic, and often full of mimicry. More study is needed on chat song.

NESTING HABITAT yellow-breasted chat

Dense thickets in old fields or woodland margins, preferably with scattered larger trees for singing perches; scruffy woodland margins, old reverting clearcuts, black locust tangles in reclaimed strip mines, etc.

SONG yellow-breasted chat

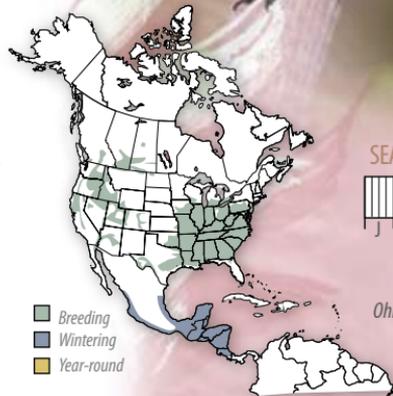
A varied repertoire of hoots, cackles, grunts, squawks, and a rapid machine gun-like rattle. Most interesting is their apparent regular mimicry of other species. The tracks on the recording of the companion CD contain apparent imitations of Northern mockingbird, Northern flicker, Swainson's thrush (call note), hairy woodpecker, Northern bobwhite, great crested flycatcher, gray catbird, indigo bunting (call note), house sparrow, blue jay, and American crow.

CALL yellow-breasted chat

Hard to distinguish from the vast repertoire of notes that chats give, but will utter some short nasal or otherwise unmusical short calls.



PHOTO BY: ROBERT ROYSE



SEASONAL ABUNDANCE yellow-breasted chat



RECORDIST NOTES yellow-breasted chat

Ohio: 20 May 1953; 20 May 1956; 10 May 1958;
7 June 1959; 24 May 1961; 30 June 1966;
14 May 1974; 31 May 1978.

ACCIDENTAL SPECIES

Seven species of western warblers have been recorded east of the Mississippi, some with regularity. Three of these have been documented in Ohio, but the others could also appear someday. If you are fortunate enough to find one of these species, please document your observation thoroughly and try to obtain photographs.

track 44 VIRGINIA'S WARBLER

VERMIVORA VIRGINIAE • VER-MIV-OR-AH (WORM EATER) VER-JIN-EYE-EE
(FOR VIRGINIA ANDERSON, WIFE OF WILLIAM ANDERSON WHO DISCOVERED THE SPECIES)

Breeds throughout much of the southwestern U.S. and winters in Mexico. The song is vaguely suggestive of yellow warbler. There are records of vagrants in Michigan and Ontario, Canada, all in May, and it could appear in Ohio.



RECORDIST NOTES virginia's warbler
Colorado: 24 June 1970.

PHOTO BY: ©ROBERT ROYSE

track 45 LUCY'S WARBLER

VERMIVORA LUCIAE • VER-MIV-OR-AH (WORM EATER)
LOOS-EYE-EE (FOR LUCY BAIRD, SHE WAS 13 YEARS OLD WHEN JAMES COOPER NAMED THIS WARBLER FOR HER)

The smallest warbler in North America, Lucy's warbler breeds primarily in Arizona and surrounding states, and winters in Mexico. There is a Massachusetts record, and although a major longshot this species could appear again in the east, including Ohio.



RECORDIST NOTES lucy's warbler
Arizona: 26 June 1964.

PHOTO BY: ©ROBERT ROYSE

track 46 BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER*DENDROICA NIGRESCENS* • DEN-DROY-KAH (TREE DWELLER)
NY-GRES-ENS (BECOMING BLACK)

Nests throughout much of the western U.S. and into southwestern Canada. Numerous records of eastern vagrants from nearly all eastern states. Ohio has had at least nine records. Most black-throated gray warblers are found in fall, perhaps one-quarter are from spring and a handful are winter records.



PHOTO BY: ROBERT ROYCE

RECORDIST NOTES black-throated gray warbler
California: 27 April 1995. Utah: 20 May 1996.

track 47 TOWNSEND'S WARBLER*DENDROICA TOWNSENDI* • DEN-DROY-KAH (TREE DWELLER)
TOWN-SEND-EYE (FOR JOHN KIRK TOWNSEND, 1809-1851)

This western species breeds from coastal southeastern Alaska, western Canada, and into the northwestern U.S. and winters along the Pacific Coast of the U.S., and in Mexico and Central America. There are numerous reports from most eastern states, including two Ohio records. Almost all Midwestern records are from spring.



PHOTO BY: WIREO-G. BARTLEY

RECORDIST NOTES townsend's warbler
Alaska: 12 June 1993; 7 June 1997.
Montana: 17 June 1967.

track 48 HERMIT WARBLER

DENDROICA OCCIDENTALIS • DEN-DROY-KAH (TREE DWELLER)
OX-IH-DEN-TAL-ISS (WESTERN)

About a dozen records of eastern vagrants, nearly all being recorded in April or May. While there has not yet been an Ohio record, the hermit warbler has been found in southern Ontario, Canada at least three times. One of these records is from Essex – about 40 miles from Ohio. Hermits breed from western Washington south into California, and winter from Mexico south to Nicaragua.

track 49 MACGILLIVRAY'S WARBLER

OPORORNIS TOLMIEI • OP-OR-OR-NIS (END OF SUMMER BIRD)
TOL-ME-EYE (FOR WILLIAM FRASER TOLMIE, 1818-1886)

There are a handful of legitimate records from eastern states, both from spring and fall. This species can be very problematic to separate from the mourning warbler. *Oporornis* warblers found late in fall, especially from mid-October on, should be carefully documented. As of yet, there is no Ohio record.



PHOTO BY:
© WIREO-BRIAN E. SMALL

RECORDIST NOTES hermit warbler
California: 13 May 1961.



PHOTO BY: © ROBERT ROYSE

RECORDIST NOTES macgillivray's warbler
Montana: 25 June 1967.
South Dakota: 7 July 1973.

track  **PAINTED REDSTART**

MYIOBORUS PICTUS • MY-EE-OH-BOR-US (FLY DEVOURER)
PIK-TUS (PAINTED)

Breeds in extreme southwestern U.S. south through Mexico and into Nicaragua. A mega-rarity in the east, with about a half-dozen records. Most likely to appear in very late fall; there is one Ohio record, and one each from Michigan and Ontario, Canada. The Ohio bird visited a Cleveland area feeder from November 15-22, 1970. Most other eastern records are from November.

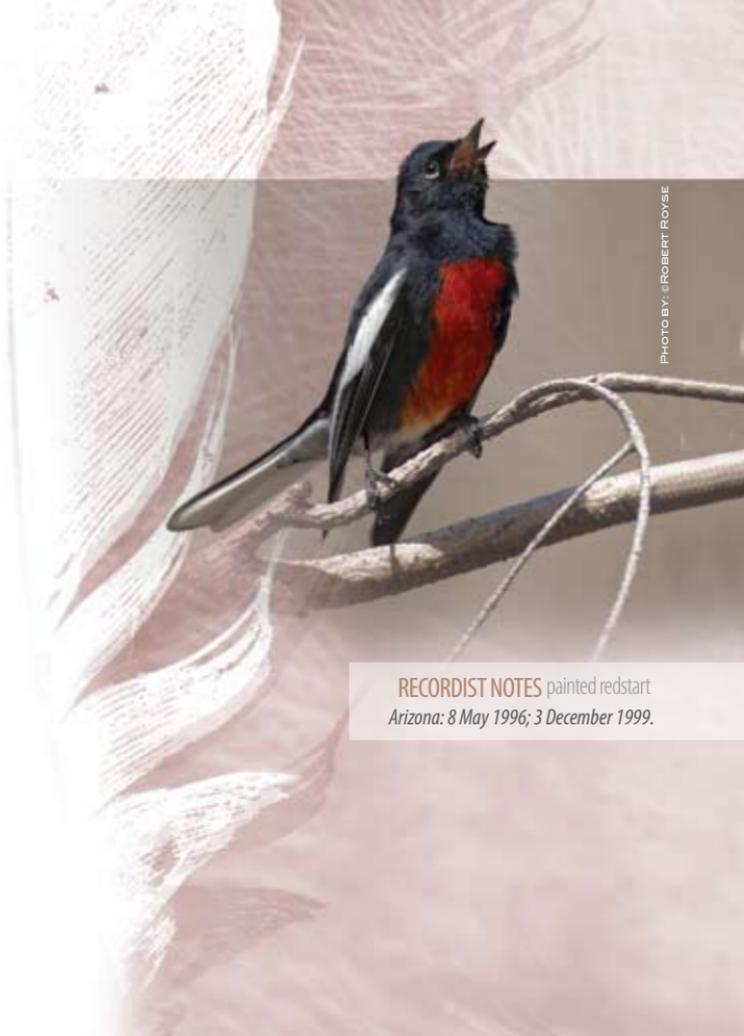


PHOTO BY: ©ROBERT ROYSE

RECORDIST NOTES painted redstart
Arizona: 8 May 1996; 3 December 1999.

BIRDING GROUPS & ORGANIZATIONS

One of the best ways to get involved with birding is to join a group of like-minded people. Fortunately, Ohio has a number of active groups throughout the state that have many birders as members, and most of these organizations host field trips regularly. Listed below are the names and contact information for many of the state's birding groups.

Appalachian Front Audubon Society
(South-central Ohio)
P.O. Box 67
Mount Orab, OH 45154
937-444-4803

Audubon Ohio (Statewide)
692 North High Street, Suite 208
Columbus, OH 43215
614-224-3303
www.audubon.org/chapter/oh/oh

Audubon Society of Greater Cleveland
(Cleveland area)
The Park Building
140 Public Square
Cleveland, OH 44114
216-861-5093
www.clevelandaudubon.org/

Audubon Society of Ohio (Cincinnati area)
3398 West Galbraith Rd.
Cincinnati, OH 45239
513-741-7926
<http://home.earthlink.net/~audsocohio/>

Audubon Society/Mahoning Valley
(Youngstown area)
P.O. Box 3214
Youngstown, OH 44512
<http://members.cboss.com/audubonmv/>

Audubon Miami Valley (Butler County area)
P.O. Box 556
Oxford, OH 45056
www.audubonmiamivalley.org/

Blackbrook Audubon Society (Lake County area)
7573 Dahlia Drive
Mentor, OH 44060
440-255-0961
www.blackbrookaudubon.org/

Black River Audubon Society (Elyria/Lorain area)
304 West Avenue
Elyria, OH 44035
www.blackriveraudubon.org/

Black Swamp Audubon Society (Defiance area)
P.O. Box 7086
Defiance, OH 43512
www.blackswampaudubon.org/

Black Swamp Bird Observatory (Northwest Ohio)
13551 W. State Rt. 2
Oak Harbor, OH 43449
419-898-4070
www.bsbobird.org

Canton Audubon Society (Canton area)
P.O. Box 9586
Canton, OH 44711
330-832-2491

Cincinnati Bird Club (Cincinnati area)
11 Mound Ave.
Milford, OH 45150
www.cincinnatibirds.com/birdclub

Clark County Audubon Society (Springfield area)
121 Larchmont Rd., Springfield, OH 45503
Contact Person: John Gallagher, Chapter President
Phone: (937) 323-0782

Columbus Audubon (Columbus area)
P.O. Box 141350
Columbus, OH 43214
740-549-0333
www.columbusaudubon.org/

Dayton Audubon Society (Dayton area)
1375 East Siebenthaler Avenue
Dayton, OH 45414
937-293-4876
www.dayton.net/Audubon/

East Central Audubon Society (Newark area)
P.O. Box 55
Granville, OH 43023
www.eastcentralohioaudubon.bravehost.com/

Firelands Audubon Society (Sandusky area)
P.O. Box 967
Sandusky, OH 44870
419-433-2883

Greater Akron Audubon Society (Akron area)
 P.O. Box 80056
 Akron, OH 44308
 330-315-5213
www.akronaudubon.org/

Greater Mohican Audubon Society (Mansfield area)
 P.O. Box 907
 Ashland, OH 44805
audubon.cjb.net/

Kelleys Island Audubon Club (Lake Erie islands)
 P.O. Box 42
 Kelleys Island, OH 43438
www.kelleysislandnature.com

Kirtland Bird Club (Cleveland area)
 4310 Bush Ave
 Cleveland, Ohio 44109
 216 556-0700
www.kirtlandbirdclub.org

Ohio Bluebird Society (Statewide)
 PMB 111
 343 West Milltown Rd.
 Wooster, OH 44691
www.obsbluebirds.com

Ohio Ornithological Society (Statewide)
 P.O. Box 14051
 Columbus, OH 43214
www.ohiobirds.org

President R. B. Hayes Audubon Society (Fremont area)
 P.O. Box 92
 Fremont, OH 43420

Scioto Valley Bird and Nature Club (Chillicothe area)
www.svbnc.org
 740-775-2247

Shawnee Nature Club (Portsmouth area)
 4362 Swauger Valley Road
 Portsmouth, Ohio 45662
 740-820-8382

Toledo Naturalists' Association (Toledo area)
 19800 Sugar Creek Rd.
 Bowling Green, Ohio 43402
www.toledonaturalist.org

Tri-Moraine Audubon Society (Lima area)
 P.O. Box 5648
 Lima, OH 45802

Western Cuyahoga Audubon Society (Cleveland area)
 4310 Bush Avenue
 Cleveland, OH 44109
 216-741-2352
www.wcasohio.org/

American Redstart



AMERICAN REDSTART PHOTO BY ©TIM DANIEL

FAST FACTS

- Most warblers spend more time in the tropics than on northern breeding grounds. For instance, some Louisiana waterthrushes are in Ohio only from April through early July – about three months. The rest of their time is spent in Central America.
- The small Central American country of Honduras supports 27 species of wintering warblers that breed in North America – one of the highest densities anywhere.
- The boreal forest that cloaks much of Canada, Alaska, and the extreme northern U.S. supports enormous populations of breeding warblers. Twenty-seven warbler species nest there, with some estimates as high as one billion individuals.
- The record-setting globetrotter of the warbler world is the blackpoll warbler. Weighing only 13 grams, some individuals migrate over 6,000 miles one-way each year. Many engage in a nonstop three day 2,000-mile long fall migration route that takes them over the open waters of the Atlantic, from New England to northern South America.
- Yellow is the most dominant primary color in warbler plumages. Of the 38 species of eastern warblers, 25 species are prominently marked with yellow.
- The Yellow-breasted chat is the largest – and strangest – warbler. It is about the size of a cedar waxwing, and is an accomplished mimic. Chats have been recorded imitating the sounds of numerous other birds, many examples of which can be heard on this CD.
- A curious warbler collected in Ohio in 1880 was named the “Cincinnati warbler.” It was later shown to be a hybrid between a blue-winged warbler and a Kentucky warbler, and Ohio quickly lost its namesake warbler. This rare hybrid has only been collected once since, in Michigan, in 1948.
- Seven species of North American birds are extinct; wiped out since the colonization of the continent by Europeans. One of them is the Bachman’s warbler, a beautiful yellow and black bird that bred in old-growth swamp forests of the southeastern U.S. and wintered in Cuba.

BIRDS IN THE BACKGROUND

All of the tracks on this CD were recorded in the wild; thus, other ambient sounds can be heard in the background. Most of these are other species of birds, and it is fun and challenging to try and identify the other songsters that occur on some tracks. Not only is this good practice, but the various species in the background reveal clues about where the primary subject was recorded, and whether it was in migration or on breeding grounds. Listed below are other bird species that can be recognized on this CD. See if you can pick them out as you listen, and maybe even find some species that we've missed.

Acadian Flycatcher
Alder Flycatcher
American Crow
American Goldfinch
American Robin
Baltimore Oriole
Black-and-white Warbler
Black-throated Green Warbler
Blue Jay
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Brown Thrasher
Brown-headed Cowbird
Cactus Wren
Canada Warbler
Carolina Chickadee
Carolina Wren
Cerulean Warbler
Common Yellowthroat
Eastern Meadowlark
Eastern Phoebe
Eastern Towhee
Eastern Wood-Pewee
Field Sparrow
Gray Catbird
Great Crested Flycatcher
Hermit Thrush
Hooded Warbler
House Wren
Indigo Bunting

Kentucky Warbler
Least Flycatcher
Lincoln's Sparrow
Northern Cardinal
Northern Flicker
Olive-sided Flycatcher
Ovenbird
Prothonotary Warbler
Red-bellied Woodpecker
Red-eyed Vireo
Red-winged Blackbird
Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Scarlet Tanager
Song Sparrow
Spring Peeper (amphibian)
Summer Tanager
Swainson's Thrush
Tennessee Warbler
Tufted Titmouse
Veery
Warbling Vireo
Western Chorus Frog (amphibian)
White-crowned Sparrow
White-eyed Vireo
White-throated Sparrow
Winter Wren
Wood Thrush
Yellow Warbler
Yellow-rumped Warbler



Louisiana waterthrush

PHOTO BY: © ROBERT POYSE

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The work of the Ohio Bird Records Committee and the Birds of North America Online monographs was very helpful in assembling seasonal abundance charts and distribution maps. Visit BNA online at: <http://bna.birds.cornell.edu/bna>

An excellent resource for further study is: A Field Guide to the Warblers of North America (1997), by Jon L. Dunn and Kimball L. Garrett.

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Arvin, J. – 1
Borror, D. J. – 1-3, 5-8, 10-23, 25-45, 47, 49
Brown, R. D. – 35
Colver, K. – 16, 46, 47, 50
Dettmers, R. P. – 40
Elliott, L. – 2, 13, 15, 18, 25, 26
Fish, W. – 48
Gaunt, S. L. L. – 2, 5, 6, 20, 24-26, 29, 41

Hernandez, D. – 11
Knickmeyer, R. – 22
Kuenzli, J. – 2, 21, 22, 37
Mack, T. – 33
Marshall Jr., J. T. – 44
McCallum, D. A. – 47
McKay, W. – 9
McLean, E. B. – 17

Nelson, D. A. – 39
Reese, C. R. – 6, 22, 29, 35, 43
Register, S. – 27
Thompson, A. D. – 33, 36, 40
Tove, M. – 4
Tsipoura, N. – 36



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(1-800-750-0750 Ohio Relay TTY only)
www.WildOhio.com

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2045 Morse Road Bldg G.
Columbus, OH 43229-6693

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MISSION STATEMENT:

WE ARE DEDICATED TO CONSERVING AND IMPROVING THE FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES AND THEIR HABITATS, AND PROMOTING THEIR USE AND APPRECIATION BY THE PEOPLE SO THAT THESE RESOURCES CONTINUE TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR ALL OHIOANS.

THE ODNR, DIVISION OF WILDLIFE IS THE STATE AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR MANAGING OHIO'S FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES. THE PRIMARY SOURCE OF FUNDING FOR THE DIVISION COMES FROM THE SALE OF HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES, FEDERAL EXCISE TAXES ON HUNTING, FISHING, AND SHOOTING EQUIPMENT, AND DONATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC. WE CARE ABOUT ALL WILDLIFE AND MAINTAINING STABLE, HEALTHY WILDLIFE POPULATIONS. OUR CHALLENGE IS TO BALANCE THE NEEDS OF WILDLIFE, HABITAT, AND PEOPLE.

Hunting, fishing, trapping, birdwatching - the love of nature ... pass it on!



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